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MERE JAP-TRAP.

WHAT does Japan mean? But yesterday she was about to stand against the world. The populace were burning to try their strength in a war against two or three assorted European Powers, and the Government was afraid that if it gave way the populace would divert its baffled energy to revolution. To-day Japan looks to have toppled down all in a heap and meekly to request her friendly enemies to do unto her that which seems good in their sight. She looks to have done so, and that may be enough to give Count Ito grave trouble at home when he has to face the Diet. But we do not believe that she has actually made any such complete surrender. In the text of her renunciation as published, not in Tokyo, but in Paris and Petersburg, she agrees to give up "definitive possession" of the Liao-tong Peninsula, with Port Arthur. By all agreement she is to receive a counterpoise to this act of self-abnegation; Russia will make no objection to the acquisition of anything she does not want herself and France and Germany are negligible except as the backers of Russia. Taking the two points together—the qualification "definitive" and the promised compensation—we can come to a good guess what Japan is at. She will take out her compensation in an increase of indemnity, looking to it that the total sum is such as China cannot immediately pay. Then she will occupy Port Arthur, not as a possession—oh, dear no!—but as a pledge of payment. Granted ordinary luck in the way of pretexts, which means normal dilatoriness on China's part, she may go on holding Port Arthur for years and years. And, even without pretexts, it is much easier, when there is no particular occasion for interference, to hold on to what you are platonically ready to give up, than to insist on its possession when war is just over and treaties are being made. Japan has not studied Western institutions for nothing. We conjecture she proposes to do with Port Arthur what France is doing with Chantabun. France dared not claim the position when she made her formal arrangement with Siam. She merely occupied it until Siam complied with her terms, and though Siam has long ago complied she occupies it still. So with Port Arthur. Russia will dislike it. But in a year or two one moment will not appear to call more urgently for an ultimatum than another.

Such we imagine to be the calculations of Japan. But how will Russia and her assistants receive it? At this moment Russia is triumphant, on paper, and the assistants share the triumph, though not even the paper advantage. Russia told Japan she must give way, and she has given way. But has she given way enough? Russian diplomatists are hardly the guileless children who will believe that when a rival Power holds a decisive advantage in pawn, she will be willing to give it up merely because the pledge is redeemed. And that takes no account of the likelihood that in the present case the pledge will not be redeemed; China, inert otherwise, would be prompt enough not to pay, and Japan would certainly not insist overmuch, as long as she held so desirable a guarantee. We cannot think Russia will be blind to these possibilities, and therefore, if the expression, "definitive possession" means what we believe it to mean, it seems most doubtful whether Russia will even now be satisfied. And if Russia is not satisfied, what of France and Germany? Of them no man can prophesy with confidence. Russia's attitude is explicable and of a piece with all her policy, but that of the others is so absolutely the reverse that it is impossible to guess what they will do. But it is not impossible that since they never anticipated pushing the matter to an acute crisis they will be satisfied if they can salvage their self-esteem by even the phantom of concession. France especially, now that the first bloom of her putative alliance is rubbed off, is beginning to chafe at an arrangement from which Russia seems invariably to reap the benefit. Germany would give much to bribe Russia into looking benevolently upon her, but even she would be loth to commit herself too far. So that it is conceivable we may now see Russia relentlessly pressing Japan for further surrenders and pulling the others forward while they timidly hold her back. Even France and Germany would hardly tolerate that position long. The alliance may come apart as suddenly as it was knit together. Which contingency is another token of the serpentine wisdom of Japan.

THE FACTORY BILL AND THE CHILDREN.

I.—BY AN EX-CHILD.

THE Factory Bill will require to be thoroughly examined by the Grand Committee. The *Schoolmaster*, for example, published a special supplement lately, which makes terrible reading. It dealt in detail with the half-timer question, and when one has read it one begins to realize why Sir John Gorst is so agitated about our failure to fulfil the pledges made at the Berlin Conference. Indeed, the more of us that are similarly agitated the better. But it is not with the factory half-timers that I am here concerned. The vast majority of these are to be found in Lancashire and Bradford, and in London there are only 693 half-timers in all. I began to wonder whether London children divide their time, as I used to do myself, between school and games; and this article is the result of visits paid to Board and voluntary schools and to Toynbee Hall, whose Economic Society is at present collecting statistics on this very question, the employment of full-timers in London. So far most of their information is not public property; and I am accordingly indebted to them chiefly for a few striking cases, whose locality I conceal, and for the confirmation of my own discoveries by a vastly greater number of cases than one person could find for himself I draw no conclusions, but simply state facts. Still, when it is remembered that the physical, mental, and moral evils of the factory system are infinitely greater, perhaps you may draw a moral for yourselves.

The majority of children do get proper time for play and sleep; but there is almost invariably a respectable minority who do manual work out of school. The occupations vary; there are errand-boys, cash-boys, newspaper-sellers, milk-boys, doctors' boys, and van-boys. In Finsbury there are "penny-wonder" sellers, who go round the bars and the coffee-houses in a kind of uniform, recite doggerel verses and sell boxes of pills and the like. Girls, as a rule, have plenty of work waiting for them at home; but in poor districts many of them spend a few hours in minding a neighbour's baby. There are also the little step-girls, who go round and clean doorsteps at about 2*d.* each. In fashionable districts like Eaton-square or well-to-do suburbs like Highgate there is a demand for boys in the large houses to do odd jobs. A large percentage work only on Friday evenings and all day Saturday. They are, of course, better off than boys who work every day; but one cannot help remembering that the holiday's cricket and football used to form no small feature of one's existence. The amount

SERVICE NOTES.

The boiler question may be considered to have been advanced a stage by the promise given by Mr. Robertson in the naval debate on Tuesday last, to agree to "any reasonable test that could be devised" for the purpose of satisfying the public mind as to the superiority of the *Sharpshooter's* Belleville boilers over the ordinary cylindrical boilers. The question now arises, what test can be regarded as "reasonable," and likely to silence all detractors if satisfactorily undergone. In "Argus's" letter on the Belleville boilers, published in *Engineering* on the 16th November last, which attracted a great deal of attention at the time, the suggestion was made that the *Sharpshooter* should be run continuously for a month side by side with the Great Western Railway Company's boats from Weymouth to the Channel Islands. The *Ibex*, one of these boats, is about 50 per cent. larger than the *Sharpshooter*, but the other vessels of the fleet, the *Antelope*, *Lynx*, and *Gazelle*, are of about the same displacement, but have a smaller heating surface and smaller cylinders. To quote "Argus," "I really do not see that anything could be fairer than these comparisons, so if the Admiralty are in earnest in their desire to know the truth, let them send their ship to Weymouth, and take the *Gazelle*, and run side by side with her for a week wherever she goes, and then tackle the *Ibex* for a week, and then try them again a second time."

However valuable the Belleville boilers may prove to be, there appears to be little doubt that their best friends cannot claim economy in fuel as one of their virtues. This is a serious drawback from a naval point of view; especially in our service, where the manning difficulty is already acute, and more coal burnt to a given mileage inevitably means more labour in the stokehold, and consequently a necessary increase to the stoking staff.

There seems to be a tendency on the part of a large section of the public to follow Sir John Colomb in his belief, as expressed in the *North American Review*, that the days of large battleships are past, and that the new type of "torpedo-catcher" will play a decisive part in the next naval war. Very similar views were expressed some years ago, with the difference that the element of danger was then looked for in the torpedo-boat. Experience has shown that those fears were in great measure unfounded, and similarly we believe that the danger apprehended from the onslaught of the new "catchers" will be found to be much exaggerated. It is the fashion to paint dismal pictures of a monster battleship succumbing to the onslaught of a swarm of these pigmy assailants, these artists in woful prophecies being quite oblivious to the fact that monster battleships will not be employed single-handed, but will invariably be combined in fleets, and attended by satellites in the form of fast cruisers with powerful quick-firing armaments. Doubtless, also, new types of fast cruisers will be laid down for the express purpose of accompanying fleets with a view to chasing and sinking torpedo-catchers. Even single-handed a modern battleship, unless caught napping, would be a formidable foe for any flotilla of "catchers" to attack.

So far from adopting the view that armour is becoming obsolete, we can draw no conclusions from recent warfare more incontrovertible than the one that efficient armour is, nowadays, of greater importance than ever, owing to the progress of gunnery, and the adoption of high-explosive shells.

We are very pleased to find that the Government have been compelled by the pressure of public opinion to include the works at Dover and Hong Kong among those to be commenced this year under the Naval Works Bill. At the time the schedule of works contemplated was published we drew attention to the urgent need for combating the postponement of these works, and we are glad to see that the same view has occurred to others.

At the time that the wearing of the scarlet serge jacket for use on manœuvres, &c., in place of the tunic and the braided blue patrol jacket was sanctioned, great satisfaction was felt by all officers at the innovation, as it was felt that if annual manœuvres were to come into force an inexpensive jacket was urgently required. The wish of the authorities to enforce economy by the introduction of this jacket was made apparent by the forbidding of collar badges being attached to it, and by the divesting the new coat of all gold lace and expensive adornments. The evil influence of the army tailors is, however, becoming apparent, and we regret to see that in the majority of regiments collar badges are openly worn on these coats in defiance of regulation, and that in many corps the silk sash is always worn with the serge jacket. If these breaches of regulation are winked at, we have no doubt that before long gold lace will begin to make its appearance again, and ultimately the "cheap" jacket will become nearly as expensive as the tunic.

of this sort of thing, of course, varies with the district, and in one class it is dying fast. Children who have reached the seventh standard do not engage in manual work, especially since the institution of the County Council scholarships. A seventh-standard master at Hampstead told me that it was practically impossible to get boys for vacant situations. They want to "better" themselves as clerks, and will not hear of manual work out of school-hours. "Will any boy who would like work on Saturdays hold up his hand?" he said, and I began to fear that some poor boy would think I had a place for him and would have to be disappointed. But not a hand went up. Fixing at random on one boy, the master asked why he did not want work. "Please, sir, mother doesn't want me to." "That's it," said the master; "they all want their boys to be gentlemen." I agreed with him that it was possible to carry this principle too far. But the incident shows the part the parent plays. It is the parent who is responsible for the work of the half-timer and the full-timer, and it is parental pride, moderated and corrected, which can alone do anything.

Let me give a few particular cases. In a school out west I found a paper-boy, who works from 6.45 to 8.30 every morning and from 5 to 7 every evening; also for an hour and a half on Sunday. Another began at four in the afternoon, and often did not get rid of all his papers till ten. An East-ender sells papers from 5.30 A.M. to 7.30, from 12 to 1, and from 6 to 8; and a boy in Camden Town from 5.30 to 7 A.M., and 5.30 to 8.30 P.M. The result is such sleepiness that as often as not the boys are doing no good at school. The milk-boy often only goes out for half an hour or an hour, and I masters think that this is harmless, and, indeed, sharpens the boy. But what of a boy who is out from five in the morning to half-past eight; again from one to two, and again from five to seven? He works even longer on Saturday, and has no day off on Sunday. This boy is eleven years old, has been at it *for three years*, and is rewarded with two shillings and his teas. Work on vans is not light; yet a boy who goes to school is thus occupied from six to eight in the morning and from six to nine in the evening. And here are a few shop-boys: East-end, 4.30 to midnight on five days, 8 A.M. to 11.30 P.M. on Saturdays. Another, 5 to 10 on five days, 8.30 A.M. to midnight on Saturday. West-end, 5 to 10.30 on five days, 10 A.M. to midnight on Saturday. North London, 5.45 to 9.30 or 9.45, Saturday 10 A.M. to 11 P.M., Sunday 8.45 to 2. Another, 8 to 9 A.M., 5 to 11 P.M., except Mondays; Saturdays 8 to 12, 1 to 4, and 5 to 11. At Camden Town I found a lot of boys away at work, as it was Friday.

These are bad cases, but there are many in London quite as bad, and the whole system is wrong. Some headmasters do not seem aware of it. I found one who was positively astonished at some of the facts he and I got from his boys. But one at Highgate, by no means a bad district, gave me the best sketch of the results. He is dead against half-time, and has induced many parents to see that they will do better in every way by keeping their boys at full time an extra year. He objects to work out of hours. Boys who have work to do come late. They have only to turn up just before the Government attendance mark is given. Religious instruction must not be included in the necessary two hours, so that these boys get none. They have to hurry to school without time to wash. A boy who has been carrying heavy coal scuttles is tired, and physical and mental exhaustion go together. They cannot settle down and they retard and demoralize the others. They usually miss just what they most need. It is hard generally to prove the influence of school on character, he said, but the difference between boys who are regularly and others who are irregularly there shows it to demonstration. It may be added that these children lower the rate of pay of those who have left school, and are often as much as three standards behind their proper place. And where do play and sleep come in? It is a sad picture, and that is why I call myself an ex-child. Every one will see that he is one as well as I, and I want every one to remember it.

II.—By a Lancashire Schoolmaster.

The Committee stage of the Factories and Workshops Bill is certain to afford opportunity to demonstrate to Mr. Asquith the necessity for accepting Sir John Gorst's new clause, raising the age for half-timers from eleven to twelve years. The prolixity of protective legislation for the adult factory operative ought to convince the House of Commons that the employment of children at the tender age of even twelve years ought to be surrounded by more than ordinary safeguards. The fact that Mr. Asquith considers it necessary to secure the safety of the workers by "the compulsory registration of accidents and the giving of power to the Secretary of State to make inquiry which would render the evasion of the law more difficult and the hushing up of injuries impossible," ought to make the Legislature pause before it declines to endorse the pledge given at Berlin, that no child under twelve years of age should be employed. The absent digit, the damaged thumb, and the bandaged eye too often bear silent but telling witness, in the factory districts of Lancashire and Yorkshire, to the necessity for withholding young children from our modern factories with their network of machinery. With the tacit assent, if not at the behest, of the adult operative, the little "piecer," or "tenter," too often ventures within the moving parts of the machinery with the resultant loss of a limb which escapes the notice of the authorities. "Under the Act," says Mr. Henderson (factory inspector) to the Royal Commission on Labour, "the employment of children under thirteen years of age is forbidden between the moving part and the fixed part of the machinery. I am sorry to say we have very frequent accidents arising from the violation of this Act, and I am afraid it is because of the instructions given to the children by the spinners."

"It is not the most fruitful, but it is a cause, and very frequently there are serious accidents; frequently the children are killed cleaning the machinery when in motion, and between the fixed and moving part of the machine."

At eleven years of age the child hardly realizes the full effect of transgressing the rules laid down by the Factory Act, and the report of the inquiry by the coroner is: "He was employed as a piecer, and whilst engaged in the usual operations got caught between the carriage and the wall. He was severely crushed, and removed to the infirmary, but despite every attention he succumbed to his injuries this morning."

Thus runs the story too frequently told in the manufacturing districts. The adult, blinded by the weekly half-crown, is content to secure legislation for all save the helpless eleven-year-old moiler. The last Annual Report of the Home Office gives a total of 627 accidents in the mills of Bolton and district, and 160 of these happened to "little piecers" from scroll bands and the carriage wheels of self-acting mules. How many others were "hushed" only those in the locality have an idea of. Too frequently the teachers in the North find the child worker unfit for school work, because of some manual accident befallen in the morning's visit to the mill. The "little chimney sweep" has been rescued by the Legislature, and it is to the Legislature that the little eleven-year-old half-timer must look for emancipation. The opposition of the operatives of Lancashire and Yorkshire is discounted because it is anticipated. Too long have they been allowed to snatch little children from the ways of childhood in their selfish indifference to demands of the physical and mental growth of the nation.

TO READERS ABSENT FROM TOWN AND COUNTRY RESIDENTS.—Residents, temporarily absent from town and country residences, may have the SPECIAL EDITION of the PALL MALL GAZETTE, containing the LATEST NEWS, sent to ANY ADDRESS within the UNITED KINGDOM, by delivery by the first post on the following morning at the rate of SIXPENCE PER WEEK, or ONE SHILLING PER WEEK to ANY ADDRESS upon the CONTINENT.

Occasional Notes.

We imitate Lord Salisbury's prudence in not venturing into a Scotch debate, but there are certain points in the Sea Fisheries Regulation (Scotland) Bill which seem objectionable to southern Saxons. The last measure was so distasteful to Scotchmen that its extinction by the House of Lords probably saved the Government from disaster in the constituencies affected by it. The new bill appears to be an improvement on its predecessor, but is still open to criticism. We are nearly all agreed as to the necessity of imposing some limitations on steam trawling. It has nearly ruined the inshore fishermen, and it destroys multitudes of fish too small for the market. But when it comes to imposing restrictions outside territorial waters and the determination of territorial waters is a difficult one—we are confronted with the possibility of finding our own fishermen handicapped, and foreigners free to do as they like. That on the face of it is absurd, and before the bill leaves the Upper Chamber we trust that substantial safeguards will be provided against a danger pointed out from both sides of the House.

It is difficult to understand why the Government should object to the division of the Welsh Church Destruction and Spoliation Bill into its component parts. Disestablishment and Disendowment are not necessarily connected, any more than a Bill for the confiscation of the property of peers would be a necessary corollary to a measure for the abolition of the House of Lords. The adoption of Mr. Griffith-Boscawen's instruction to the Committee would have expedited the discussion of the bill. But Mr. Asquith, who is becoming a very "arbitrary gent," would not have it. As Mr. D. A. Thomas, with a happy mixture of metaphor, said, "Ministers are ploughing the sands in order to fill up the cup." The supporters of the Government have had a hint—Mr. Asquith assures us there are no instructions—not to argue. Theirs not to reason why, theirs but to sit and vote. And the voting machines, as Mr. Sweetman called them, do their duty, and the Radical press dutifully praises of obstruction, and so in time we shall reap our sand harvest.

The praises of Westralia were hymned last night at the Holborn Restaurant, where a complimentary dinner was given to Sir William Robinson previous to his departure as the first Governor of the self-governing colony. Lord Ripon does not sparkle, as a rule, but he made some quite passable little jokes, while proposing Sir William's health, about Jarra wood and other products of the country. The occasion, indeed, was one that required a touch of due conviviality. Sir William Robinson has spent over thirty-three years in the service of the Empire. He may not have accomplished any brilliant achievement, but he has hardly made a single mistake. He has shivered on Prince Edward Island, and grilled in the Straits Settlements. More to the point, perhaps, is the circumstance that this will be his third occupancy of the Governorship of West Australia, which settlement he may be said to have educated up to the responsibilities of managing its own affairs. He will doubtless adapt himself easily to the altered conditions, and prove as popular a representative of the Queen as ever, even should Coolgardie and Murchison fail to come up to his rather sanguine anticipations.

"Surely you know well enough there is no such thing as 'honour' in 'business.'" It is a startling statement; but it is the *obiter dictum* of a learned judge. Mr. Justice Cave, the author of the apothegm, followed up this remark to a solicitor's clerk, by the statement "that whenever a man told him he trusted to his honour in a matter of business he suspected that man wanted to 'do' him, and he generally found he was right." It is a horrid idea—for is it not said that there is honour among thieves? but there it is fresh from the Bench. The case which evoked it was a trumpery one arising very naturally from two ladies being permitted to transact business with one another. Of course they fell out, and equally of course one said unpleasant and, as it turned out, untrue things of the other. For which feminine amusement the libellees has had to pay twenty-five guineas and costs. But it will not teach the dears to be cautious.

We welcome the Rev. W. J. Jenkins back to litigation. The coal trade has been very dull without him of late. But we are promised livelier times ahead. Not only did he appear at the Highgate court yesterday for the purpose of exposing the monstrous behaviour of coal merchants, but he tells us that he has several other little affairs in hand. Mr. Jenkins went and ordered and paid for half a ton of coals; then he rushed back to catch them at it. The result was, according to his statement, that the first sack was deficient by 18 lb., the second by 14 lb., the third by 17 lb., the fourth by 15 lb., and the fifth by 17 lb. Mr. Jenkins triumphed, and in the virtue of his triumph sought the law courts. But, unfortunately, Mr. Jenkins's reputation has spread and the coal merchants had played an unworthy trick upon him. As a matter of fact, his coal was 3 lb. overweight. It came of the duplicity of the carman. Anything more scandalous we cannot conceive. Imagine the meanness of a firm that will trick you in that way, by giving over-weight. However, Rome was not built in a day, and Mr. Jenkins must not be discouraged. If he keeps on he is sure to be successful some day.

Thomas Hurst possessed a dog which he was prepared to warrant amiable. It got on well with his six children, and "an angel could not be amiabler." He said so himself, and, as Mark Twain would add, he would hardly lie about a little thing like that. But Henry Howell, of Forest Gate, tempted him with gold (10s.) and he sold it, just as the Arab gentleman in the song did with his steed. But "his kids were different to mine," as Mr. Hurst said yesterday, and so the dog began by biting Mr. Howell's little boy on the first day and a neighbour's little boy on the second, just as an angel would have done in the circumstances. Mr. Howell then offered to return it, but Mr. Hurst begged him to take it for a walk and lose it, and he would get him another in its place. This was for the sake of the little ones at home, he explained yesterday in the Borough County Court; for evil communications corrupt good manners, and as Mr. Howell's children had caused the angel to fall, it might visit their sins on his own "kids." Judge French, however, absolved the young Howells from blame, and ordered the half-sovereign to be returned. The dog will, doubtless, find its way to Battersea, which is not so very far from the Borough.

In Sir George Buchanan, whose death occurred on Sunday, the nation loses a public servant who did much good in his generation. *Sanitas sanitatum*, said Mr. Disraeli, and the Radicals jeered at his "policy of sewage." The Public Health Acts, nevertheless, and the Public Health Acts alone, have enabled the rapidly increasing population of this country to escape cretinism or extermination by epidemics. To Sir George Buchanan belongs the honour of having been a "sanitist" long before the official world cared one jot for sanitation. His great work on the relationship between phthisis and subsoil water dates thirty years back, and its arguments in favour of deep drainage have since been adopted by every efficient public body. As head of the Medical Department of the Privy Council, he laboured incessantly; and the recent report of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis, of which he was chairman, shows that he did not spare himself outside his particular work. Many lives have been more talked about than his, but few have been of more solid value to the community.

Foiled of its foreign match with Peru, the enterprising republic of Ecuador is playing a pick-up game at home. In other words, there is a revolution there, and a right merry one as well. It is spreading on all sides, the telegrams declare, and it is being laid on pretty thick too. The Minister of War, General Savasti, is reported killed, but nobody seems to have taken the trouble to verify the rumour. Journalists escape absolute death, since editors and proprietors are merely banished and their papers suppressed. Ecuador is nothing if not original. Its women have marched one hundred strong against the barracks at Canar, attacked them, and liberated the political prisoners. In the Commune the ladies confined themselves to setting houses ablaze, and never actually attempted sapping and mining. But, perhaps, one hundred smiles and the brilliance of two hundred eyes were the weapons employed against the garrison. Anyhow, Ecuador has fairly made Nicaragua seem commonplace, and the future developments of its little pastime will, we trust, prove equally spirited.

BABY SEED-SONG.

Little brown seed, O little brown brother,
Are you awake in the dark?
Here we lie cosily, close to each other;
Hark to the song of the lark!
"Waken!" the lark says, "waken and dress you,
Put on your green coats and gay
Blue sky will smile on you—sunshine caress you—
Waken! 'tis morning, 'tis May!

Little brown seed, O little brown brother,
What kind of flower will you be?
I'll be a poppy, all white like my mother;
Do be a poppy like me!
What? You're a sunflower—how I shall miss you
When you're grown golden and high—
But I shall send all the rooks up to kiss you!
Little brown brother—good-bye!

The legal mind is going to be exercised, and the ratepayers' money has got to flow, over the "settlement" of Paul Humphreys, lunatic, "technically" British subject. Paul was born, forty-two years ago, in Russia, of the marriage of his English father with a Russian lady. He has put in seven years of his time in an asylum at Witepsk. Why Witepsk parted with him does not appear. But it did; and here the costs begin. A British pro-Consul and a Russian doctor were subsidized to bring him to Sheerness. Our Home Department requisitioned the Mayor of Sheerness to meet him. The Sheerness police-court sat specially to receive him, and he is now the guest of the county of Kent at Chartham. An interpreter had to explain on his behalf—for he does not understand a word of English—that he was not mad, but only missioned to turn all the crowned heads of Europe, Queen Victoria excepted, into cats. Still, as the court sent him to Chartham, it will have to send an interpreter, at the county charges, to Chartham with him. Meanwhile a legal contemporary decides that, under the Lunacy Act of 1890, his "settlement" is not in this country at all. On the other hand 4 George II. constitutes him, "technically," a British subject. And his speech betrays him for an alien. The Sheerness Mayor said it would have been cheaper to pay Russia to keep him; and that practical man was probably right.

"THREEPENNY-BITS," AT THE GARRICK.

Up to five o'clock yesterday's special matinée at the Garrick was very enjoyable. On *a priori* grounds it is safe to conjecture that it continued to be so afterwards. Further than that we cannot go; for a matinée is at all times a good second to the Arabian in the matter of headaches and to all through a composite benefit programme is a task to which few are ready equal. Fortunately the public do not want to hear from us about Mr. John Hare in "A Quiet Rubber," or Miss Marie Tempest's song, or Mr. Hayden Coffin's, or Miss Angela Vanbrugh's violin solo, or Mr. Grossmith's entertainment. They are all old friends, and we only mention Mr. Clement Scott's "Vivarage" because the cast included Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft, whom it is always pleasant to see once again. Nor will the public be very anxious about Mrs. Clement Scott's recitation of her husband's appeal on behalf of the Limpsfield Boys' Home, for whom the entertainment was given. It was very nice, but if you missed it then you cannot go and hear it now. But Mr. Zangwill's little farce will be heard of again, and will be worth going to see.

2.15 is not a good time for a one-act farce. It comes better after dinner. That and the heat are, perhaps, the reason why we felt a little bored with the continual stream of jokes and jokelets. No doubt they are what we want in a farce, and they are certainly better than the flat pointlessness one sometimes gets. But one really cannot be expected to laugh very much at "Even journalists sometimes tell the truth," and startling novelties of that kind. Also it may be added, to get the little grumbling necessary over at once, that Mr. Zangwill, as a man, understands men better than women. Consequently Richard Westbourne is funnier than Margaret Linfield, because he has some real man about him. The lady's anxiety about her personal appearance, her wish to die becomingly after the due amount of dabbing with a powder-puff, are overdone to the extent of ceasing to be funny. But, when that is said, we may add that Mr. Zangwill, even at 2.15, gave us a good half-hour. The plot turns on the insurance paid by certain papers to people found dead in railway accidents with the current number on their persons. The passage in which Margaret tells Richard about the accident, to tremulous music, is very good burlesque tragedy, and so is the ensuing quarrel, which arises because the dead old man from whose clutch she snatched a copy of *Threepenny Bits* is Richard's uncle, and he thereby loses the £3,000 insurance money. Only a miracle can heal the breach, and that miracle is provided by Richard's discovery that the paper was not one of the current number, but only a specimen copy, and therefore worthless. The idiocy that from the author's "Old Maid's Club," but it is much funnier on the stage. One incident, taken at random, will show the humorous way it is worked out. Richard, after a minute of agony on finding that the train has been wrecked and some of the dead are not identified, sees a cab drive up and Margaret descend from it. Then, all in a breath, he says. "It's Peggy! Then she's saved, she's saved, thank God! I'm not shaved! Oh Lord!" and hastily removes seven ladies' photos from his mantelpiece. This may not seem very funny in print, but it is very funny on the stage, and this little masterly touch of bathos is a very fair sample of Mr. Zangwill's humour in the play.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh do their parts well. Burlesque tragedy is not, perhaps, the hardest form of acting, and that is why Mr. Bourchier pleased us most. He had to be natural at times, and there it is harder. Notably was this so when he indulged in a running commentary on his letters and on the papers over breakfast. Of course no man really does thus soliloquize aloud: it interferes with business. But it was a necessary stage conventionality, and Mr. Bourchier did it well. We hope to see "Threepenny Bits" again, and Mr. Bourchier and Miss Vanbrugh in it.

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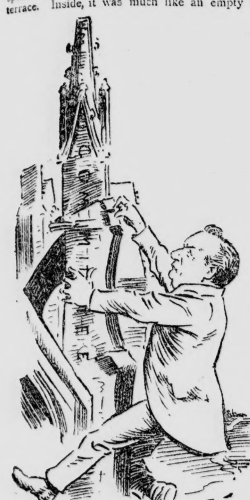
DIM AND RELIGIOUS.

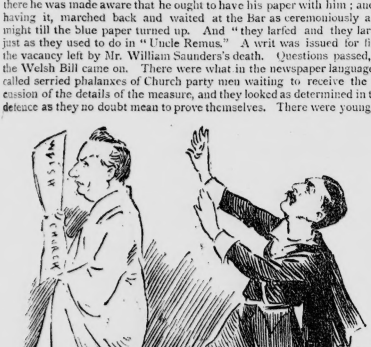
IN THE HOUSE. BY AN OBSERVER.

Outside the House it was sunny and bright, the first day of summer in spite of the calendar, as was proved by the look of the lady-decorated terrace. Inside, it was much like an empty cathedral, both as regards light and shade. For the shadow of the Welsh Church Disestablishment Bill lay over all. Though it is the first Government business of the session—as per order—it fails to rouse enthusiasm. Perhaps its precedence was the reason why members chuckled in a nervous way at whatsoever was at all out of the common that happened before Mr. Asquith formally introduced the Committee stage of his bill. There were, for instance, shy glances at the bold M.P.s who, by Derby hats, and, in the case of one eccentric Irishman, by a superfluous "straw," tried to demonstrate their faith that summer had come. There was a little ripple of so-called ironical cheers because the Solicitor-General saw fit to carry a bill he was introducing right down to the Bar of the House before taking it to the Table—a formality that many Ministers have been known to neglect. And because it was merely one of those small points that require a specially



STEEPLE JACK (MR. ASQUITH).

Parliamentarily-trained want of intelligence to appreciate, it must not be supposed it was not appreciated. The Bishop of St. Asaph, in the Peers' Gallery, having preferred Welsh Church to Scotch Fisheries in his own Chamber, quite caught the infection, and hereabouts and hereafter "swapped" smiles espiscopally with honourable members he knew by sight in the place below. There was a really good chance for lovers of small laughabilities in the introduction to the House of Mr. O'Kelly, the new Anti-Parnellite member for East Wicklow, who was expected days ago; and he made his *entree* rather comically. He appeared as a large man with a ruddy face, a white flower of the common or gardenia kind in his coat, and without the blue paper on which his writ was written. Between Dr. Tanner and Captain Donelan, who did the regulation pacing well, the new Irishman walked ceremoniously to the table. Arrived there he was made aware that he ought to have his paper with him; and not having it, marched back and waited at the Bar as ceremoniously as he might till the blue paper turned up. And "they larfed and they larfed," just as they used to do in "Uncle Remus." A writ was issued for filling the vacancy left by Mr. William Saunders's death. Questions passed, and the Welsh Bill came on. There were what in the newspaper language are called serried phalanxes of Church party men waiting to receive the discussion of the details of the measure, and they looked as determined in their defence as they no doubt mean to prove themselves. There were young and



PLACE, PERTURBED SPIRIT! (MR. GRIFFITH BOSCAWEN AND MR. ASQUITH.)

old there: Mr. Boscawen and Lord Cranborne for the first category of Church defencibles; and, let it be said, Sir Francis Powell and Mr. Stanley Leighton for the second. They tried hard to exorcise the evil spirits of Disendowment and of Disestablishment, and, no doubt, were much interested in the progress made (which was not strikingly rapid); but "to the general" it was a mere repetition of small points. A solemn but not very impressive ceremony on the whole.

SOME OF OUR ENGLISH POETS.

"Some of our English Poets." By C. Bell. (Elliot Stock.) This is a volume of pleasant and discursive talk about some of the great poets and writers we know and love. As such it is agreeable enough reading; but when we have said that, we have said all there is to say. Of penetrating and illuminating criticism, such as is to be found in the pages of Arnold or of Bagehot, we do not remember a single sentence; indeed, such criticism as Mr. Bell indulges in is mostly that of others, and appears very properly between inverted commas, and the examples from the poets' own works which he selects for quotation are as a rule the most hackneyed ones. It is perhaps difficult to say anything fresh about such subjects as Sir Walter Scott, the "Vicar of Wakefield," or Mr. Wordsworth's poetry, and yet they seem to have a fascination which lures the writer on into pages of gentle commonplace. Mr. Bell's volume is nicely got up, and in all respects readable.

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THE FLOOD AT BOUZEY.—II.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

In eight minutes the flood travelled ten miles, glutting its fury with universal ruin, and though it be impossible to heighten the first impression of horror imparted by the desolation of Bouzey, you cannot travel the valley of the Avière without discovering at every step a fresh and ingenious disaster. After its wantonness there is no quality of the torrent so remarkable as its invention. It seems to have exhausted every variety of outrage, and to have left a separate mark upon each of the villages which were its victims. At Darnieulles it is content to churn up the railroad, to hurl the signal boxes into far distant fields, and to claim for ransom a couple of bridges. Here, as throughout the road of destruction, the simple earthworks survived the shock, while metal to iron and stone, proving that the primitive obstacle is still the surest. The outskirts of Uxegney were levelled to the earth, though the main street of the village rises high enough to have escaped the heavier blow. Yet Uxegney, too, has its tale of victims. Men and cattle both perished, and while the dead beasts have been already thrown into a pit, the soldiers are still seeking the bodies of the dead. At one corner two oxen were tossed by the stream up into a garret, where their corpses were found glued against a wall. Next door every stick of furniture and every rag which would betoken a human habitation were carried off, and only a brittle dinner service, sheltered by a cupboard, remain untouched. In another cottage you discover a novelette sodden with water, and crinkled by the sun. Its title—"La Fiancée d'un Condamné"—is still decipherable, and one needs to be a psychologist to weave a romance round the village maiden, pitilessly drowned, while her treasured "dreadful" escapes to thrill many another with its false sensation. How many pages of "copy" would the incident be worth to M. Bourget? But if Uxegney was less miserably tattered than its neighbours, the storm fell upon Domèvre with an intemperate rage. Now Domèvre lies on the very slope of the valley, and the onrushing water well-nigh wiped it out. First it cut the cemetery in half, a piece of wantonness which impressed the village gossips with a sterner sense of awe than the slaughter of families. Crosses and headstones were ripped from the graves; the graves themselves were opened with what seems to the mob of trippers a reckless impiety. Then it licked up thirty houses, built on the other slope, leaving no wall erect and burying the inmates beyond discovery. And here you may gauge the sentiment of the people. As the destruction of the cemetery appears the flood's most flagrant infamy, so the soldiers toil their hardest to find among the ruined houses the dead, who have already met with so solemn a burial. But in the midst of all this devastation it is impossible to adjust the emotions, or to parcel out your grief upon the most deserving victims. Though the desire to reclaim the dead, and to give them Christian burial, is universal at Domèvre as at Bouzey, few tears are shed for the victims. Sorrow is lost in the prevailing sense of discomfort and broken industry. The destruction of the implements of life, of the cattle, the ploughs, the very fields themselves, appears (as it is) far more terrible to the peasant than the loss of friends and the interruption of family ties. After all, the capacity of mourning is limited even in those who are trained to sensitiveness, and it is true that the labourers of Domèvre are thinking and talking rather of future indemnity than of present sorrow. After leaving Domèvre the flood passed through a vacant valley, where it found naught to destroy.

THE TRAGEDY OF MUD.

Yet it has left traces of its passage in every field. Trees, beds, tables, are thrown haphazard upon the river banks. Miles from a cottage you catch sight of a straggling arm chair, which has been thrown (maybe) from Bouzey, and dumped down here by a wayward mischance. And then suddenly you come upon Nomexy, which provides another and even a more acute impression of misery. If Bouzey is destruction made concrete, at Nomexy you witness the tragedy of mud, a tragedy more intimate and horrible than the tragedy of death. The village seems swamped in the accumulated mud of the whole valley. The streets are impassable. The houses, even to the top story (where, indeed, they survive), are covered and plastered with mud. A thick coat of mud has invaded the church, staying only at the altar steps. Of meadows and ploughed land there is scarce a vestige left. It is mud, mud, mud everywhere. No wonder the philanthropic minister, who is posing as the father of the people, should have advised quinine to be distributed for the avoidance of the threatened pestilence. Here again—at Nomexy—there is the appearance of a military encampment, and the soldiers were busy cutting new roads and constructing new bridges. The heavy stone viaduct, under whose middle arch ran the tiny stream of the Avière, and whose wide expause served the villagers for a high road, was shattered by the flood, still terrific after its journey of fifteen kilometres. But already a light bridge has been thrown across for foot-passengers, and already the line of a new way has been cut across the dip of the valley. The energy displayed is admirable, and if the Government be guilty of negligence at Bouzey, it is making its best and only atonement. And how the disaster was soon stayed! Half a mile east of Nomexy lies the prosperous village—one might even call it a town—of Châtel-sur-Moselle. Between Nomexy and Châtel run, in the parallel lines characteristic of French construction, railway, canal, river. The flood destroyed the line as effectually here as at Darnieulles, but this was its last gasp of malignity. The low-lying ground between the high road and the line is to-day a sodden marsh, and the trains must run to Nancy by another route. The work of many months will be needed to restore the old possibilities of travel and transit; but, once the earthworks passed and unhurt, once the last bridge of iron tumbled into the valley, and the reservoir of Bouzey had claimed its last victim, had achieved its last piece of wantonness. The Moselle, which has dispersed the flood, flows as placidly at Châtel as it flows at Epinal, where in the summer a man may cross the river bed dry shod. You pass from the desolation of Nomexy to the smiling content of Châtel, which has lost but a single house, and whose weavers have scarcely interrupted their work. And if you have not had opportunity to indulge a hundred emotions between Bouzey and Châtel it is your own fault, and not the fault of the flood. A hundred victims, five ruined villages, a transformed countryside, a dozen industries destroyed—these are counts in an indictment which must presently be made. Meanwhile the energy of France and her soldiers is magnificent, and even the hapless dyke will be rebuilt. But the indemnity must still be paid, and the guilt of the catastrophe must be brought home to the careless, offending official.

THE NATIONAL TELEPHONE COMPANY.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—In view of the proposal of the County Council to take over the telephone service of the metropolis, the National Telephone Company is making a desperate effort to collect testimonials of its good conduct from the subscribers to the system. I enclose a printed copy of the form of this testimonial to which my signature has been solicited. I need hardly say that this has been refused by me, and I venture to express the hope that the majority of subscribers will take the same course. I don't wish to call in question the quality of the service—there may be different opinions about this; but few will deny that the cost of it is excessive, and if the company cannot give us a cheap and good service it is for the interest of all users of the telephone that the County Council should effect this. I know something of the telephone service of various cities of Europe and of the United States and Canada, and the subscription in many places, where the service is equally efficient, is one-half to one-third of the rate here. Even in Liverpool, where the service is worked by the same company, the rate is only £10 per annum, or one-half of the London rate. Why should Londoners help to nurse an expensive monopoly? An opportunity for the remodelling of the system now presents itself, and it will be a thousand pities if subscribers play into the hands of the company by thoughtlessly signing its testimonial. A large number of City men cry out against the action of the County Council as being directed only to the protection of the labouring man. Here is a scheme for the benefit of the whole community, and I for one advocate the municipalizing of the telephone system.—I enclose my name and address and subscribe myself,

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SECOND EDITION NOW READY.

GALLIA.

By MÉNIE MURIEL DOWIE,

Author of "A Girl in the Karpathians." Crown 8vo, 6s.

THE TIMES says:—"That 'Gallia' is no ordinary book may be granted at once. The author is equally at home in a Parisian Bohemian's *ménage*, a Grosvenor-place drawing-room, a great country house in Surrey, and a bachelor's questionable establishment in Edwardes-square. . . . She understands the points of a horse; in fact, she understands many things, and she never writes of what she does not understand. Her dialogues are brisk, and sometimes witty, as when, at the dinner table of an unenterprising Colonial Secretary of State, Mr. Essex asks sarcastically, and with a mock air of irritation, concerning a young official who has spent his summer holiday in South Africa, 'What does he want to endanger his future and his country's future for by getting to know anything about her dependencies?' That irresponsible little person, Gertrude Janion, reminds us a good deal of a minor character of Mr. E. F. Benson's. Miss Dowie's characters are carefully drawn, though not always convincing. As we knew before, she has a clear and incisive style (although such a phrase as 'immemorial fine forgiveness' may give rise to perplexity), and her sentences, if sometimes slangy, are never commonplace. In short, 'Gallia' has very many of the qualities that go to make up a good book. . . . We disagree with Miss Dowie none the less because her theories and ideals—assuming Gallia to be her mouthpiece—are, although 'advanced,' 'advanced' in a very different sense from those of Mrs Sarah Grand and Mrs. Mona Caird, and other exponents of the New Woman school. Indeed, so robust are they, so virile, and so free from cant and sentiment, that they are almost the antithesis of the views which have wearied us of late. . . . We are far from saying that some of the issues it raises are not worthy of discussion in a proper place. Let it be granted, too, that Miss Dowie has handled them with about as much delicacy as they are capable of in such a context."

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(Publishers' Announcements continued on Page 4.)

REVIEWS.

THE NOVELIST OF THE SOUTH.*

WE are quite convinced that "John March, Southerner," is a very clever book; partly because it has the general air of extreme cleverness, partly because it contains excellent patches, and in part because we know and admire other works of the author which have given him a peculiarly individual position in American literature. Peculiarly individual, indeed, is the novel under consideration, so peculiar and so individual that one is wholly at a loss how to class it, or what judgment to pass upon it. The individuality has enlarged into a mannerism, and the method into an eccentricity. It is the last fault of great minds with too strong a self-assurance. We have our Meredith; America has her Cable. Not but what Mr. Cable's English is the easier of the two; but, on the other hand, his plot, his motives, and his characters are infinitely more bewildering than those of the English novelist. He sets forth to show part of the life of a Southern gentleman from the termination of the Civil War. But that is insufficient for his greedy pen; it will sketch us all the details of society in Suez from that time. It is not the history of a village, but that of a state, which he presents to us. His range covers all the families of the district. A hundred characters appear in this fat volume, scattered and sprinkled in a profusion that is at once generous and reckless. We could be content with fewer; our eyes would be oftener upon the hero, and we would prefer a surer hold upon him. Mr. Cable's novel is a string of episodes, leading, we have no manner of doubt, to an artistic end; but bewildering us upon the way. We turn round a dozen times and catch nobody. Everything seems to start from nowhere, and end where it started. They are admirable incidents; they are the invention of a man who has more knowledge of man and woman than a score of Howellses, but they do not compose. They trouble us; they irritate. Years are ticked off between this paragraph and that. Motives and emotions spring up outside the pages and are thrust suddenly upon us; and in the struggle to follow, our head aches and our temper flies. New people peep in and pop out ere we can catch at their coat-tails. They vanish, and they return when we have forgotten, jumping to the same ironical strings. The whole procession passes as a vastly clever nightmare.

Out of this extraordinary jumble of riches you may dip at random and pick out a jewel. There is nothing better than the picture of John, aged eight, riding behind his father, and sleeping or waking as he chooses. The judge is as good as he may be. General Halliday, Major Garnet, Fair, Parson Tombs, Ravenel, Mrs. March—all are distinct and lively human characters. With his women Mr. Cable does not make so great a success. Fanny is not bad, but Barbara is unconvincing. Beside Mr. Meredith's galaxy they pale into nothingness. On the other hand, the nigger Cornelius is remarkable. Of the politics, of the intrigues, we know nothing, but out of these and despite of these the nigger, Leggett of Leggettstown, marches in triumph. And when he sets his mind to it Mr. Cable can tell a story with the best. Witness the little shooting scenes in Suez. They are nervous and forcible and have an atmosphere. The nervousness is overdone, maybe, for sometimes the effect is galvanic. The narrative jumps and skips, and it is a call upon the reader's intelligence or imagination to supply the spaces. But without the sense of it is impressive; and when one reaches the close one lays aside the book with a sigh for the forgotten Unities, and a regret that what might have been a great book has failed for the want of a design and the pursuit of the unessential.

* "John March, Southerner." By George W. Cable. (London: Sampson Low and Co.)

RAILWAY HISTORIETTES.†

LET us hasten to say that in entitling these books "historiettes" we bring no impeachment against them on point of size. On the contrary, they cover 1,500 pages, and weigh, as Lord Macaulay would have said, some 12lb. avoirdupois. The diminutive applies rather to their slightness of texture and their ephemeral nature. They are books for the libraries and not for the library. Still, though neither woven close in matter, form, nor style, we trust they may walk the town awhile; for, strange as it may seem, in this country, which, in George Stephenson's phrase, by making the railways has in large measure made itself, their subject is mainly new. Why Englishmen should write and read volumes by the score on explorations in every country, from Greenland to Madagascar, when the history of the transformation of their own native land in the last two generations is still unwritten, it is difficult to understand. But the fact remains, and we owe our gratitude to Messrs. Pendleton and Sekon, each of whom has written what may fairly be called an entertaining book, for proving that here, on homely English ground, there is ample material for graphic description and even for picturesque illustration.

Beyond this we fear it is impossible to carry our praise. Neither of these writers appears to have any real familiarity with his subject. Mr. Pendleton thinks a banked-up fire means one blazing high, whereas it means just the opposite; he confuses "deadheads" with "deadends"; calls mixed trains composite trains, and talks about "still gradients" and "the axle of the front pair of bogies." He might as well talk of the axle of a two-pair-back. As for Mr. Sekon, he tells us that Paddington passenger station is 70 acres in extent, the fact being that it is somewhat under four, and his 70 acres was probably a figure given him by an official to cover the entire Great Western property, goods yards and engine sheds and all. In another place he tells us that "although the line has such severe gradients, these lend themselves to the economical working of the goods traffic." Does Mr. Sekon think that the force of gravity on one side of a summit is greater than that on the other side, or that any two sides of a triangle are less than the third side, or how does he work it out?

Our two authors agree in thinking it undesirable to acknowledge indebtedness to previous writers. Mr. Pendleton, for instance, devotes chapter after chapter to the Midland Railway for whose materials he is constantly indebted to Williams's history; while Mr. Sekon does not even mention the name of Bourne's "History of the Great Western," from which he not only borrows in the text, but also reproduces several of the illustrations. In literary graces, on the other hand, Mr. Sekon stands alone, and graces not in one language only, but in three. Of English flowers of speech we have "human incongruity" and "a contingent van"; elsewhere we read that "with the broad-gauge lines *tout cela changé*"; which perhaps is only natural seeing that, as Mr. Sekon observes, "every *magnum opus* must be established *ex terræ*." But enough! As serious contributions to our all too scanty railway literature these books are naught. For all that, they may well help the general and not too critical reader to while away pleasantly an idle hour.

† "Our Railways: their Origin, Development, Incident, and Romance." By John Pendleton. Two vols. (London: Cassell. 1894.)
"A History of the Great Western Railway." By G. A. Sekon. (London: Digby, Long, and Co. 1895.)

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THE WARES OF AUTOLYCUS.

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ON MIRRORS.

"She is plain," said my aunt, thoughtfully, and rubbed the tip of her nose with the ivory paper-knife—"decidedly plain."

"My dear aunt! She has a charming expression. I've often noticed it. I'm sure she has a charming expression," said I.

"Yes; that is precisely what I complain of. With all the world to contemplate and to admire; with the spring coming—a new spring!—with young blood in her veins, and the crocuses opening everywhere in the sunshine—she has absolutely no expression at all. Not a jot. I don't mean in her face, mind you. Why, good lord," said my aunt, who is a lady of marked character and substantial income, "why, good lord! I am not asking of the child that she should *think*. *Chi pensa s'invecchia.* I don't want wrinkles on my apple-blossoms. But that she should not know how to put her own clothes on, in a manner personal to herself!—That she should go to a counter-jumper for counsel and to a dressmaker for decision!—That her hat should be a mistake and her frock a miscalculation; that——"

"I'm sure that was a charming dress she wore at the Bosanquet-Jones's. Every one admired it, I'm sure. And as for miscalculating," I said feebly, "it was in the very latest fashion, they tell me."

"In the very latest fiddlestick!" said my aunt.

Now, a man is a man even while he is a nephew. And even a nephew (if properly trodden on) will turn. "Miss Smyth," whom I had the pleasure of dancing with for nine consecutive dances at the Bosanquet-Jones's on Tuesday, besides taking her down to supper twice—"Miss Frances Alicia Smyth *may* be a fiddlestick—" I began loftily, and with my most killing and sarcastic manner. But my aunt does not, I fear, altogether appreciate those finer shades of a man's irony.

"The worst of it, the unendurable thing, is that there are such masses of them. Such chattering, compact, inattentive crowds of 'em," she remarked, pensively. "Advice, criticism, reflection—all, all is scattered, wasted upon such hordes!"

"Hordes, ma'am? Did you say *hordes?* Why, I'm sure there are only four sisters besides Fanny. And the two youngest can hardly yet be described as *out*. One of 'em only goes to Cinderella dances, I *know*. And even if you count in the mother—who is a fine, large specimen of a woman, I admit; and the cousin—and she is not always with them—why, even that only makes seven."

"Seven? Seven thousand. Seven hundred thousand. Seven millions! I tell you the world is full of them. Packed, choked full of them. As full," said my aunt angrily, "as full as a Kensington 'bus!"

"The world? Packed full? 'Buses? Miss Smyth? Miss Fanny—Fanny—Fanny Alicia Smyth," I repeated helplessly.

"Miss Smy—! Lord bless the boy! Who is talking about little Fanny Smyth? I am speaking to you of the Average Woman," said my aunt Lavinia briskly.

"Oh," I repeated, and sat back, feeling faint about the knees, in my aunt's chintz-covered Windsor chair.

"I have been talking to you about her for the last half-hour," continued my relative, and fell to rubbing the other, the off, side, so to speak, of her imposing nasal organ. "My mind is full of the Average Woman. So is the world. So are the evening papers. So are the 'buses. When you come to think of it, the newspapers and the 'buses generally *are* full of the same sort of thing," my aunt repeated thoughtfully. "Just now it is the Plain Average Woman who preoccupies me. For the Average Woman *is* plain."

"With exceptions, dear aunt!" I confess I was thinking of one who shall be nameless.

"Fool," said my Aunt Lavinia. "Exceptions have nothing to do with the average. But it is so like—so exactly like a man to contradict himself at the very start of a serious argument. And this kind of talk *is* serious," said my Aunt Lavinia severely. "For consider how, when all has been said and done, how that sense of a woman's beauty, and the potency of it and the desirableness of it, has survived a thousand and a million wrecks? States, religions, literatures, wars and the rumours of wars have passed away. The world has altered, and all the estimates of all the things past and done have altered with it. A man with definite convictions nowadays is as rare and as distinguished—as distinguished as a woman with a faultless hand and wrist," said my aunt, and I saw her glance complacently down at the little dimpled white hand resting upon her ample blue serge lap. They are fair and pretty fingers, those; and, ever since I can remember anything at all, I can remember her on one of them a heavy, old-fashioned bloodstone signet ring—"for both of them—the clean-cut traditional convictions and the clean-cut inherited fineness of form—are signs and tokens of things gone from among us," my aunt added dreamily. "And still Beauty, wherever you find it, is sovereign, and governs, and has its day of exaltation and power, and issues decrees and holds its court, and is unjust and unquestioned, and autocratic and adored, in the midst of the maddest republics. Beauty is the only sovereignty that has never been discrowned," said my aunt, rapping upon her knee with the ivory paper-knife; "and still a thing of beauty is a joy for ever. Still, in the midst of chaos and machinery, of science and democracy, it *does* matter if an insignificant girl's hair is soft and abundant; if her cheek be delicately tinted and modelled; if her lips——"

"It matters, indeed," I said, sitting up.

My Aunt Lavinia frowned. "I believe that no woman under forty, undisfigured by manual labour, no woman, I say, has the moral right to look irreconcilably plain," she announced, with one of those sudden somersaults of the understanding to which her respectful nephews have long become inured. "No woman *is* plain, rightly considered; and those who submit basely and hopelessly to such a fate should be punished for doing so. I would have them arrested—in church, in the street, at tea parties, in tramcars, wherever I met with them—and haled before a judge——"

"You would look very well yourself, my dear aunt, in a judge's powdered wig!" I interpolated gallantly.

"——before a judge of good and appropriate dressing," said my aunt. "Their punishment should be solitary confinement, at the pleasure of the court, in a room with a mirror—with *long* mirrors. If I had my way I would make it penal for any woman to live in a house unprovided with pier-glasses. 'For consider, my dear madam,' I should say in turn to each agitated and convicted sinner"—(and my aunt's tones assumed a truly awful judicial ring)—"'consider your duty as an Average Woman. You are the person who goes to dances, to the Park, to shops, to the theatre. You are everywhere. You are everybody. For Heaven's sake, can you not, out of mere public feeling, out of decency, out of simple good citizenship—*can* you not ascertain what your general effect may be upon the sensitive passing eye before leaving the shelter of your house, your club, or your wigwam? *Look* at yourself, my dear madam. Contemplate yourself, my pretty miss. Have a long glass hung in the room you most frequent, and look before venturing out among the haunts of suffering, impressionable Man. Reflect that you, too, are a member of the community—a community which provides you with policemen, with gas lamps, with the bill for the Protection of Married Women's Rights. You are sheltered, illuminated, half promised a vote and a stake in your country to play with. And under such circumstances—on your honour now, madam—can anything in this world or in the next justify the gross public outrage of an incongruous skirt, a coat of clashing colours, a hat of impersonal unbecomingness, a bow of superfluous ribbon at the wrong angle, a wreath of flowers over tired eyes?'"

"But ——" said I.

"Theodore!" said my aunt solemnly, "in the merciful scheme of Nature there *are* no plain women. There are women who dress badly, women who are dull-natured; women who take too much medicine; women who take too little food. But given fresh air, exercise, and the sane, contented mind which follows—given enough looking-glasses, Theodore—above all, LARGE LOOKING-GLASSES—and the most rudimentary instruction in form and colour——"

"But, my dear aunt——" I said.

Publishers' Announcements.

(Continued from Page 3.)

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CITY NOTES.

STARTING AFRESH.

That they have their work cut out for them the new directors of the Grand Trunk are just the men to recognize. The security-holders will recognize it as well, and will be patient. Even providing a strong loan is obtained for Canada to represent the strong men that have been obtained for London, it will be difficult to undo the damage that has been wrought. Take, for instance, the question of the subsidiary lines. How will they sever the connection in the case of a line with, say, £1,000 dols. of bonds, half of which have been exchanged for Grand Trunk four per cent. debenture stock and the other half remaining in the hands of the public? Such knotty problems will at least take time to solve. Sir Charles Rivers Wilson and Lord Welby, however, the shareholders have directors well versed in sound finance. If Sir Charles can involve a little of the success of the Grand Trunk, of which he has a director, previously applied, Sir Joseph Price has not only taken a leading part in unpacking and re-packing the Grand Trunk, but he is a man of vast railway experience. During the past twenty-two years he has figured in connection with the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway, the Chicago and Alton Railway, and the Great Western of Canada; and he is managing director of the English Association of American Bond and Share Holders (Limited), vice-president of the New York, Ontario, and Western Railway, and director of the Quebec Central Railway. Sir William L. Young has spent seven years amidst the detail work of the Grand Trunk, and is a director of other small railways in the West Indies. English railway experience is brought to bear by Mr. Alexander Hubbard, who is deputy chairman of the Great Western, besides having experience of the Grand Trunk Board itself, and of Australian railways; Indian railway experience by Col. F. Firebrace, who is managing director of the Great Indian Peninsular Railway; and South American railway experience by Mr. George von Chauvin, who is chairman of both the Southern Brazilian and Donna Thereza Railways and director of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company.

TANDEM MOVETTES.

To not many who were present last night at the Westralian banquet were the first rays of the beautiful May morning sun to which Sir William Robinson picturesquely referred at the beginning his speech, visible to-day. The function was too brilliantly successful for that, and it bestows great credit upon the committee of new Westralians which organized it. Speaking from behind the chocolate-colored swan in the magnificent hall, the Marquis of Ripon was utterly invisible, but he was evidently saying the right thing, and the guest of the evening received quite an ovation. Sir William Robinson evidently believes in the golden future of the colony which may almost be called his. It has been called the Cinderella of Australasia and he used the simile, in a speech happy throughout, to show how at Coolgardie she had changed her rags for a raiment of gold, and how the Prince, in the form of British capital, had come to woo her. The temporary embarrassment and return to rags and the unfortunate loss of the slipper may be familiarised to London—— but, of course, these questions do not enter at a banquet. The colony has an antiterous area three times the size of Ireland, and her revenue for Marys was greater than the revenue for the whole of the first year of Sir William Robinson's governorship. Br. F. A. Thompson was last speaking.

THE PETROLEUM MONOPOLY.

The German Secretary of State, Dr. von Bottticher, has declined to reply to an interpellation in the Reichstag regarding the recent manipulation in the price of petroleum on the ground that the formation of an American petroleum ring had long occupied the attention of the German and Prussian Governments. The evils of the monopoly have just been brought home to the public through the enormous advance in the price of oil, but it has long been known to those behind the scenes that the German Government were studying the operations of the Standard Oil Company with anything but sympathetic interest. Firms have been absorbed in one direction and brought up or out in another, whilst the few who dared to stand aloof have met with the usual cutting prices in their own neighbourhood, that have driven so many dealers in oil to abandon their business in this country. This might have gone on for some time even in Germany had not the Standard Oil Company, in order to secure practically a monopoly of an American Trust Company for the supply of its petroleum for local requisites. And what this means is perhaps best summed up in a telegram that was lately cabled from the States informing the victims of the ring that the Standard Oil Company were reported to have made ten million dollars in their last *coup*. Fortunately we are at the commencement of summer, and there is time, if we will, to make such arrangements with the Russian producers and the outside American refiners as will guard against another ten million dollars being made out of the European public in a week.

THE OLD EQUITABLE REPORT.

The directors of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, in submitting the report on the transactions of the society during the year ending 31st December, 1894, state that the change in the constitution of the society has resulted, as had been anticipated, in an increase in the volume of new business. The number of proposals received last year was 4115 for £1,000,000, of which £1,000,000 was assured for £43,700 were declined, and 301 policies were issued assuring the sum of £327,625, an increase over the new business in 1893 of 130 policies and of £93,575 in sum assured. The new premiums amounted to £21,570, of which £9,457 were single payment. This is the largest amount of new business completed in any one year since the Equitable Life Assurance Society was established, who were assured under ninety-seven policies for a total sum of £165,770. The bonus addition attaching to those policies at the time of death amounted to £110,705; but in many cases bonuses which had been declared, amounting to £24,179, had been surrendered either in exchange for premiums, so that the net total bonus additions amounted to £85,7- per cent. of the sum assured. From a detailed list of claims it appears that in twelve cases, or one-fifth of the whole, the sum assured and declared bonuses exceeded three times the original amount assured; in fifty-two cases, being more than one-half of the whole, the sum assured and declared bonuses exceeded twice the original amount assured; and in 73 cases, or more than three-fourths of the whole, the sum assured and declared bonuses amounted to more than one and a half times the amount assured. Thirty-four claims, making the sum of £42,300, to which bonuses of £11,769 were added, on which £17,655 had been paid on premiums, were surrendered on the occasion of a loan of £10,000, on the average, of 93 per cent. of the premiums paid. The total expenses of management, which include exceptional payments connected with the new constitution and transfer of the securities from the trustees to the incorporated society, amounted to £12,250, being 11 per cent. of the premium income, or 5.7 per cent. of the total income, exclusive of interest, which was £210,000. The assurance fund at the commencement of the year amounted to £4,174,635, was increased by the sum of £95,622, and at the end of the year amounted to

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Glasgow and South-Western	19,000	*Increase* 1,000	130,000	*Increase* 1,000
Great Eastern	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
Great Northern	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
Great Western	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
Lancashire and Yorkshire	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
London and North-Western	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
London, Brighton and South Coast	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
London, Chatham and Dover	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
London, Tilbury and Southend	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
Metropolitan	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
Metropolitan District	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
North British	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
North-Eastern	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
North London	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
North Staffordshire	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
Shropshire and Montgomeryshire	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
South-Eastern	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
South Wales	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
Taff Vale	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200
Wirral	37,000	*Increase* 1,000	274,450	*Increase* 15,200

MONEY AND STOCKS.

MINING CARRY-OVER.—AMERICANS STRONG.—VAN RYNS SPURT.

Money continues very easy, and the requirements of the heavy Mining settlement have had no appreciable effect on the surplus balances with which the market is overstocked. Short loans are readily obtainable at ¼ per cent., and the fine discount rate is quoted at 13-16, although business has been done at ⅞ per cent. Bankers expect to get the same rates from stock-brokers to-morrow as last time.

The feeling on the Stock Exchange to-day has been very buoyant all round, and although the Mining market is too busy arranging an enormously heavy carry over to attend to new business, prices are generally very firm. Consols for money slightly improved on yesterday's record at first, and the nominal two and a-Halfs have broken their record 104. Home Railways are rather better than recently, but do not attract very much interest yet. In the Foreign department Argentines have again advanced and Chinese Silver Loan is up another point, while Internationals are steady but featureless. The new Eastern question has assumed a rather more peaceful aspect. American shows considerably increased activity, and a bullish tone prevails. The bears of Canpacs are having a bad time of it, the price being up nearly two points again to-day. Grand Trunks are also firm on the announcement of the new board, and Mexican Central bonds have advanced 1½. There is a further rise of ⅞ in Van Ryns on reports that the new find to which we referred is a valuable one.

Yield.	Stocks.	M'vent to-day.	Latest Prices.
£ s.	BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
2 9	Consols (2½) May	103⅝	6
2 9	Do. Account	103⅝	6/8
2 9	Do. New (2½)	103⅝	6
2 9	Local Loans Stock	103⅝	5/8
2 17	India 3½ per Cents	104⅝	10⅝
2 17	Do. 3 per Cents	103⅝	5
2 8	Do. Upper Cut. Rs.	-⅛	57⅛
2 8	Do. Lower Cut. Rs.	-⅛	56⅝
2 12	Mid. Ind. Wks. 3½	+⅛	100⅝
2 16	Do. 3 per Cents		100⅝
2 16	Bengal 3½ 3½ pc.	+⅛	101
2 16	Liverpool 3½ pc.		100
	COLONIAL SECURITIES.		
3 4	Canada 3½ pc. Reg.	+⅛	113
3 4	Do. 3 & 4 pc. Reg.		103
3 2	Cape 3½ pc. Cn.		113⅝
3 10	Do. 4½ pc. Inscr.		107
3 10	N.S.W. 3½ pc. Inscr.		103⅝
3 11	Victoria 4½ pc.		107⅝
3 11	N.Z. Unified Cn.	-⅛	103⅝
3 11	Queensland 3½ pc. Cn.	-⅛	103⅝
3 12	S. Australia 3½ pc.		103⅝
3 12	Do. 4½ pc.		107⅝
3 12	Victoria 3½ pc. Cn.		103⅝
3 12	Do. 4½ pc.	-⅛	103⅝
	BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
3 10	Brighton Ord.		113
3 8	Do. A	+⅛	113⅝
2 18	Caledonian		152
3 5	Chatham Ord.	+⅛	75⅝
nil.	Chatham Ord.	+⅛	16
3 5	Do. Def.		109
nil.	Do. 2nd Pref.		60
3 8	East London		150
3 8	Great Eastern	+⅛	70⅝
3 11	G.E. Wth. Ord. Pref.		113
3 11	G.E. Wth. Def.		98
3 6	Do. A		98
nil.	Great Northern		104⅝
nil.	Hull & Barnsley		80⅝
3 9	London and York		107⅝
nil.	Lon. Metropolitan		120
nil.	Met. District		87⅝
3 10	Lon. & North-Western	+⅛	170⅝
3 10	North Brit. Pref.	+⅛	93⅝
3 10	Do. Def.	+⅛	70⅝
3 6	North Eastern		160⅝
3 8	North Stafford		120
3 8	Shropshire & Mont.		109
3 10	Southeast		91
3 10	Do. A		91
3 8	South Eastern		95
3 6	South Wales Ord.	+⅛	74
3 4	South Western		126
3 4	Do. Deferred	+⅛	61⅝
	FOREIGN STOCKS.		
6 2	Argentine 6s. 1886	+⅛	65
7 1	Do. 6s. Funding	+⅛	69
	Do. Cedulas A		28
5 12	Do. 4½ pc. Bds.		70⅝
5 4	Do. 5s. Gold		94
6 1	Do. W. of Mines	-⅛	61
	B. Ayres Provincial		20
	Do. Cedulas		70⅝
7 4	Brazil 5s. 1889	+⅛	69
6 4	Bulgarian		97
6 10	Chilian 6s. Gold		104
5 16	China 5 pc. Gold		103⅝
6 15	Do. 7 pc. Silver	+1	104⅝
nil.	Do. 8 pc. Silver		17
	Costa Rica Ass.		20
6 0	Do. 6s.		70⅝
	Ecuador, New		24
7 0	Egyptian 7 pc.		104⅝
5 16	Do. Unified	+⅛	100
5 15	Do. New Daira	+⅛	104⅝
5 9	Do. Domains	+⅛	104⅝
5 12	French 3 pc. Rents	+⅛	97
4 17	Do. 4½ pc. Rents		106⅝
	Greek 5 pc. 1881		30
	Do. 6 pc. 1890		53
	Do. 4 pc. Mon.		25
	Do. 4 pc. Gold		25
	Do. Consolidated		25
	Guatemala 6 pc.		90
nil.	Honduras	-⅛	60
6 0	Italian 5 pc.		103⅝
4 12	Italian Prov.	+⅛	67⅝
4 17	Mexican 6 pc. Ass.	+⅛	80⅝
nil.	Do. 6 pc. Gold		84
nil.	Peruvian Ass.		8
	Do. Preferrence	+⅛	17⅛
	Do. Consolidated	+⅛	40⅝
4 18	Portuguese 3 pc.		29⅝
5 0	Portuguese 4 pc.		29⅝
6 19	Russian 5 pc. 1822	+⅛	104⅝
6 17	Spanish 4 pc.	+⅛	62⅝
nil.	Do. Passive		14⅝
5 4	Do. Deferred		14⅝
6 5	Turkish 1865		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1869		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1870		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1873		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1874		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1877		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1881		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1885		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1886		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1888		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1889		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1890		14⅝
6 5	Do. 1891		14⅝
6 5	Do.

"THE TIMES," Dec. 29, 1894, says in a leading article on "OUR DAUGHTERS"

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ON VIEW DAILY. The celebrated picture of "The Triumph of Asiatics," painted by Professor Basa Shiraga, at Mr. MARTIN COLNAGHI'S MARLBOROUGH GALLERY, 15, Pall-mall, from 10 to 6. Admission 1s. Illustrated descriptive catalogue, One Shilling; from 10 till 6 daily.

ROYAL SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The SUMMER EXHIBITION is now open at the Pall Mall East, from 10 till 6. Admission 1s. Catalogues 1d.

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OLYMPIA. MONSTER ATTRACTIONS. OPEN ALL DAY, from 12 to 11 o'clock. OLYMPIA OLYMPIA'S LOVELY GARDENS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE SEASON. BOLOSSY KIRALFY'S LATEST SUCCESS. "THE ORIENT." AT 2.30 AND 8. 2,000 PERFORMERS. 250 ELEPHANTS, HORSES, CAMELS, ETC. GRANDEST SHOW ON EARTH. ONE CONTINUAL ROUND OF ENJOYMENT. THOUSANDS of ONE SHILLING Reserved SEATS. NO EXTRAS. ALL SIDE SHOWS FREE. No Extra Charges. Tickets 1s., 2s., 3s., 4s., and 5s.

AFRICAN LOAN EXHIBITION.—CRYSTAL PALACE.—The African Loan Exhibition, embracing arms and utensils from all parts of the African Continent, will be OPENED in the Grand Nave of the Crystal Palace about the middle of MAY.

EAST AFRICAN (SOMALI) VILLAGE in the Grounds of the CRYSTAL PALACE. To be OPENED about the middle of MAY, under the direction of Herr CARL HAGENBECK. Group of about 100 natives of Somaliland, and 50 African animals. First time Somalis have ever visited England.

AFRICA IN LONDON.—CRYSTAL PALACE.—Twenty-four African Lions Twenty Racing Dromedaries, Twenty-five Somali Riding Ponies, Twenty-five Ostriches, Eleven Elephants, and 250 Somali Sheep, Goats, Cattle, &c. Herds of Antelopes, Zebras, Leopards, Hyenas, Gazelles, Antelopes, Great Tyrtlons, Wild Dogs, Wild Donkeys, Monkeys, Baboons, &c. The Lion Mimosa Somali Village will open about the middle of May.

NIAGARA HALL. REAL ICE SKATING. REDUCTION in PRICES of ADMISSION, for summer months only. 8.30 A.M. to 1.0 P.M. ..... 2s. 6d. 2.30 to 6.30 P.M. ..... 2s. 6.30 to 11.0 P.M. ..... 2s.

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EIGHTH UNIVERSAL COOKERY and FOOD EXHIBITION, PORTMAN ROOMS, BAKER STREET.

OPEN from 12 to 10.—Admission 1s. Demonstrations by Monsieur A. Soyer, Summer Dishes by M. E. Pomiès, Savouries, Confectionery, &c., by Mr. R. Gunner; Pastry, Cuisine Messagère, by the celebrated French chef, M. Urbain Dubois; Bread and Rolls, by Mr. Sperry and Children's Cookery Competitions. Band of the Royal Artillery Company, afternoon and evening. C. DEARDEN SIRES, Hon. Secretary.

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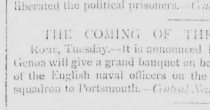
WEATHER FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY.

South England (with London and Channel).—Easterly and north-easterly winds, strong on coasts; fine generally.



Readings by Messrs. NEGRETTI AND ZAMBRA'S Instruments.

THE REVOLUTION IN ECUADOR.

WOMEN ATTACK BARRACKS.

NEW YORK, Tuesday.—A telegram from Guayaquil says that the revolt in Ecuador is spreading. It is reported that the Minister of War, Mr. Sarasti, has been killed. The principal newspapers have been suppressed, and the editors have been banished. Several regiments have joined the rebels. A hundred women have attacked the barracks at Canar and liberated the political prisoners.—*Central News.*

THE COMING OF THE ITALIAN SQUADRON.

ROME, Tuesday.—It is announced here upon authority that the Duke of Genoa will give a grand banquet on board his flagship *Sardegna* in honour of the English naval officers on the occasion of the visit of the Italian squadron to Portsmouth.—*Central News.*

THE ARMENIAN COMMISSION OF INQUIRY.

PARIS, Tuesday.—A denial is given by the Ottoman Embassy here to the statement that the Commission of Inquiry in Armenia had concluded its labours, having satisfied itself as to the truth of the accounts of massacres. The Commission, it is declared, is still pursuing its investigation.—*Reuter.*

SUICIDE IN AN AMERICAN HOTEL.

BUFFALO, Tuesday.—Gregory Grant, supposed to be a man of some position, apparently thirty-five years of age, committed suicide in an hotel here yesterday by taking morphine. There is no clue to his identity beyond an envelope found among his belongings addressed Dr. Grant, 45, Bishop's-street, Portsmouth, England.—*Central News.*

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THE ROYAL, HOLBORN.—GRAND VARIETY Programme. G. H. [illegible] on Unbalanced Equilibrium. Estelle Burnelly, Billy Lennox, Lydia Pardoe, Lucy Pamaline, The Pelzellis, Nellie Navarro, Ida Heath, Katy Carney, The Hanlons, Marie Lloyd, Two Bawns, Leo Dharma, Dan Crawley, and the Great Lafayette. Doors open at 7.30, commencing at 8. Prices from 6d. to £2 2s. Doors open every evening at 7.15, and SATURDAY MATINEES at 2.30. Manager, Mr. ARTHUR SWANBOROUGH.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—SEASON of 1895. Open daily from 10 to 6. Saturday next, May 11th, at noon. Admission—IXE SHILLING.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE. United Kingdom Section. EXHIBITION of PHOTOGRAPHY, a representation of Arts, Sciences, and Industries, in connection with photography, will be OPENED by the Prince of Wales, K.G., on Saturday next, May 11th, at noon. EXHIBITION OF RAILWAY APPLIANCES AND INVENTIONS now in full [illegible] Railways in modern and Working Models.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—Colonial and Indian Sections. EXHIBITION of COMMERCIAL and ECONOMIC PRODUCTS now open daily. Special EXHIBITION of Natural History Specimens, Sporting Trophies, Game, Fishes, Insects, Birds, Eggs, Nests, Skins, and Furs, and Collections illustrating Fish Culture, now open.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—THE CELEBRATED STRAUSS ORCHESTRA from VIENNA, including principals, personally conducted by HERR STRAUSS, by permission of the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Court, will perform ON SATURDAY NEXT, MAY 11th, in the Grand Nave of the Crystal Palace, at 3 and 8 o'clock. Tickets for the afternoon concert, 2s. 6d. and 1s.; for the evening concert, 5s. and 2s. 6d. (including admission to the Exhibition), may be had at the Exhibition, at the Crystal Palace, and of the usual agents. Early application for the evening concert is necessary, as the number of tickets issued will be strictly limited.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—THE EXHIBITION GALLERIES, CONCERTS, and PROMENADES will be actively illuminated every evening. The Grand Nave, Central Gallery, and Conservatory will be open from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Accommodation for thousands of visitors. Admission every day, including SUNDAY, 6d. Refreshments of the best quality and at moderate charges. Programmes of Concerts, Promenades, and Illuminations, Posters will be specially seen 12 noon.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—Open to the public on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, from 10 a.m. till 6 p.m., ONE SHILLING; are reserved for the Members of the Institute, Exhibitors, and their friends, and Students of Science and Art. Admission by Members' Tickets only.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—Tickets from all parts of London and Suburbs, by rail and tram, to the Institute Station, and to the Institute Road Gate, 6d. Inquiries by letter should be addressed to the Secretary of the Institute, and not to any Officer of the Institute, as the Staff is entirely engaged and harassed night and day in the West Gallery, and cannot be disturbed for the transmission of correspondence.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—Open at 12 noon on Saturday next, MAY 11th, for the Summer Season, Imperial Illustrated Concert of the 1st class Orchestra in the Grand Hall. Two Hours' MUSICAL PROGRAMME by the Orchestra and by the Organ. Admission 1s. Doors open at 11.30. Admission to Exhibition 1s. extra.

STRAUSS ORCHESTRA.—This famous Vienna Orchestra has been engaged for the coming season exclusively in the United Kingdom. The programmes consist entirely of the compositions of the late JOHANN STRAUSS, and other compositions by the principal musical celebrities of the world. They comprise over 1,000 pieces. Full programmes post free.

STRAUSS ORCHESTRA.—Communications and inquiries by post or telegram should be addressed to "The Secretary of the Strauss Orchestra, Hotel Annexe, Vienna."

MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS, St. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.—NIGHTLY at 8, and MATINÉES on MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and SATURDAYS at 3. Enthusiastic reception of the New Holiday Programme. Private Boxes, 2l. 2s., and £1 1s. Stalls, 5s. and 3s. No fees. General Manager, Mr. LAURENCE BARRETT.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION, BAKER-STREET STATION.—Most marvellous public success. Daily, 10 to 10. Extensive New Figures, Chamber of Horrors, Cabinet Ministers, &c., &c. Original and unique Costal Presentation.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION. 50th THOUSAND FAILURE. New Portrait Model of THE PRINCE OF WALES JABEZ SPENCER BALFOUR. A fascinating Children's Studio by day. Open 10 to 10.

EMPIRE OF INDIA EXHIBITION, 1895.

SEASON TICKETS, 10s. 6d. each, which entitle the owner to participate in the FIRST ANNUAL PRIZE DRAWING of the EARL'S COURT ART UNION. Established by authority of the Board of Trade.

THE EXHIBITION will OPEN END of MAY.

Season Tickets will be available every day the Exhibition is open, and entitle the holders to participate in the drawing of valuable Prizes, ranging from £5 to 10s. 6d. each.

250 PRIZES of the total value of £2,712 10s. will be allotted to every Season Ticket.

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BRITISH OCCUPATION OF EGYPT.

BECOMING A SECOND INDIA.

PARIS, Tuesday.—The *Gaulois* to-day publishes an account of an interview with a personage who, it says, has been closely connected with all questions relating to the British occupation of Egypt. He is reported to have declared that if the British remained in Egypt a few years longer the country would become a second India. English would become the fashionable language to the exclusion of French, and then there would no longer be any question of evacuation.—*Reuter.*

HANDSOME PENSION FOR EX-KING MILAN.

NISH, Tuesday.—The Skupstina yesterday evening unanimously adopted the proposal for granting a pension of 360,000 f. annually to the ex-King Milan, and also agreed to the bill by which the King's parents and relatives in the direct line are afforded the same protection as his Majesty himself.—*Reuter.*

DEATH.—STEPHEN.—On Sunday morning, May 5, Julia Prinsep Stephen, wife of Leslie Stephen, at 22, Hyde Park Gate, of acute rheumatism, followed by sudden failure of the heart's action. Funeral at Highgate Cemetery on Wednesday at 4.30 p.m.

FOURTH EDITION.

CHINO-JAPANESE SETTLEMENT.

EUROPEAN INTERVENTION SUCCESSFUL.

YOKOHAMA, Tuesday.—Yielding to the representations of the European Powers, Japan has unconditionally abandoned her claim to the Liao-tong Peninsula.—*Reuter.*

SPAIN AND THE TREATY.

MADRID, Tuesday.—In the Senate yesterday a question was put to the Minister for Foreign Affairs regarding the statement that Spain had signified her adhesion to the united protest of Russia, France, and Germany against the terms of the treaty of Shimonoseki. The Minister, in reply, said that the moment was inopportune for making public the negotiations in which Spain had been engaged with friendly Powers. When the time came the Government would give complete explanations.—*Reuter.*

THE RELIEF OF CHITRAL.

HOW SHER AFZUL JOINED IN THE ATTACK.

Lieutenant Gurdon, who has been so often killed by native reports, has come down from Chitral and joined General Cataere, north of Kala Drosh. He has resumed his duties as Political Officer. Sher Afzul has given his version of the circumstances which led to his joining in the attack upon Chitral. He says that he left Kabul owing to a summons from Umra Khan. He conferred with the Pathan Chief, and it was finally agreed that in the event of their attack upon the British garrison at Chitral being successful Sher Afzul should have the Mehtarship, while Umra Khan should take the rifles, ammunition, and stores. Both chiefs believed that Chitral had been delivered into their hands. They could not conceive that any expedition could arrive in time to render aid.

ACCIDENT TO THE ITALIAN ROYAL TRAIN.

AN ALARMING OCCURRENCE.

ROME, Tuesday.—The Royal train conveying the King and Queen from Florence to Rome met with a disaster last night near Incisa. Without any previous warning a violent shock was experienced and many of the suite travelling were slightly injured by the concussion. The King and Queen, who were sleeping at the time, were awakened, but happily escaped any injury. An investigation leads to the belief that the incident was due to the defective state of the rails causing one of the coaches to leave the line.—*Central News.*

THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN CRISIS.

The Emperor of Austria has written a letter to Count Kalnoky, declining to accept his resignation. In the Hungarian Diet yesterday, Baron Banffy made a statement with regard to his recent differences, and declared that the Government would maintain their resolve that no one should be allowed to interfere in the internal affairs of Hungary.

A DERELICT SHIP TOWED INTO PORT.

QUEENSTOWN, Tuesday.—The Liverpool steam-tug *Genoveock* has towed into this port the dismasted and waterlogged vessel *Birgetti*, timber laden, which she picked up derelict off the west coast of Ireland. This is the abandoned craft to destroy which H.M.S. *Traveller* was sent out some days ago, as the derelict was reported to be a great danger to navigation.—*Reuter.*

VISIT OF THE QUEEN TO LONDON

TO HOLD THE DRAWING ROOM.

The Queen, who was accompanied by Princess Beatrice, Princess Christian, and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, travelled from Windsor to town to-day for the purpose of holding the third Drawing Room of the present season at Buckingham Palace to-morrow. Among the suite were Lady Churchill, Colonel the Hon. A. Byng, and Major the Hon. H. C. Legge. The usual preparations for her Majesty's journey were made by the police and railway authorities, and the Royal departure, which took place in splendid weather, was witnessed by a large number of the residents and visitors. The Castle guard was mounted near Henry VIII.'s Gate, and the way from the grand quadrangle was kept by the Royal Household police and the borough constabulary. The Queen and Princess Beatrice on quitting the Palace precincts drove to the Great Western station, where they were received by Mr. Allin, traffic manager, Messrs. Armstrong and Goodenough, and Mr. Hart, divisional superintendent of the London district, and

CONDUCTED TO THE ROYAL SALOON.

This was coupled in the middle of the special train, which was drawn by the "Duke of York," one of the most powerful locomotives in the company's service. The Queen left the terminus at half-past eleven o'clock, the special train travelling past West Drayton, Southall, and Ealing to Paddington, which was reached at five minutes past twelve, after a thirty-five minutes' run from Windsor. Her Majesty and suite proceeded from the station under an escort of the Household Cavalry, through the Park to Buckingham Palace, where the Royal standard was hoisted immediately after the Sovereign's arrival. During the drive from the railway station to the Palace the Queen was accorded a most cordial welcome from the numerous spectators assembled along the route and in St. James's Park. Her Majesty returns to Windsor Castle on Thursday evening.

DEATH OF THE DOWAGER DUCHESS OF ROXBURGHE

The Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe died this morning at Hereford-gardens from acute bronchitis.

THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE LORD PEMBROKE.

The funeral of the late Earl of Pembroke will take place at Wilton on Friday next at two o'clock. The train, which leaves Waterloo Station at eleven o'clock and arrives at Wilton at 1.20, will convey any friends who wish to be present. The return train will leave Wilton at 3.30, and friends wishing to attend are requested to apply by telegram to Mr. Sidney Herbert, Wilton House, Salisbury.

OUTBREAK OF FIRE AT HAMPTON COURT PALACE.

About six o'clock last night a fire broke out at Hampton Court Palace, in a store-room belonging to Mrs. Chamberlain, a lady resident in the Fountain Court. The room in which the outbreak occurred is immediately under the Picture Gallery, but an alarm being raised at once and assistance being available with the least possible delay very little damage was done. Several members of the resident fire brigade, together with a number of policemen, hurried to the store-room, and succeeded in extinguishing the fire with the fixed hydrant, just before the Hampton fire brigade arrived at the Palace.

AILING AND CONVALESCENT.

LADY FITZWILLIAM.—Grave condition little changed.

LORD JUSTICE SMITH.—Suffering from influenza.

SIR HENRY FOWLER.—Passed a good night, and the improvement in his condition is maintained.

SIR F. LEIGHTON.—No change in his condition.

A small chandler's shop was burned down in Dublin last night, and the proprietor, an old woman named Kehoe, was burned to death.

A South Eastern guard named Mitchell was knocked down by an express and cut to pieces at Ashford station to-day.

The London Hospital has purchased the lease of a house in Bow-road for the preliminary training of nurses during the period of probation before entering upon hospital work.

MINNIE PALMER IN THE DIVORCE COURT

ACTION BY JOHN R. ROGERS.

The undefended divorce action of Mr. John R. Rogers against his wife, known theatrically as "Minnie Palmer," and as "My Sweetheart," on the ground of her misconduct with Mr. Jerrard, her touring manager, came on again this morning before Sir Francis Jeune. Mr. Yelverton, petitioners' counsel, said that his lordship, while satisfied that respondent had misconducted herself, had desired to be satisfied that there had been no collusion or connivance between the petitioner and Sir William Rose, the co-respondent in the former suit, which had been abandoned by agreement. In order to convince his lordship he had subpœnaed Sir George Lewis, Sir William Rose's solicitor. As a matter of fact the settlement had been made at arm's length, and Mr. Rogers had accepted £600, not as damages, but because he had been put to great expense in the matter. Sir George Lewis, upon being called, denied emphatically that there was any sort of connivance on Sir William Rose's part. He knew nothing of this suit until he saw it in the papers. Early in May Mr. Yelverton desired to leave the matter, but Sir George Lewis had a lot more to say. Mr. Yelverton protested, but the President said Sir George Lewis was the witness of the court quite as much as Mr. Yelverton's witness, and thus invited Sir George said this: when Mr. Rogers first brought his suit against his wife and Sir William Rose

HE CLAIMED £10,000 DAMAGES,

and there was a letter in the Registry written by Rogers to a gentleman in America, stating that as Sir William Rose was a married man with a son, it would be worth his while to pay £10,000 to get him (Rogers) to leave the country. After that, proceeded Sir George, £5,000 was demanded from Sir William Rose as the price of allowing the case not to continue, and of course the demand was refused. Ultimately he (Sir George) agreed to pay £600 to get rid of the matter, £200 of that being allocated for costs, and £400 to go into Rogers's pocket. The agreement was now in court, and Sir William Rose was not a party to it. He should like to add that Sir William Rose's life had been threatened, and every effort had been made to terrorize him into paying large sums of money by this man Rogers. He would hand to his lordship a packet of Rogers's letters and telegrams in order that his lordship could see what class of communications they were. Mr. Yelverton next called evidence to prove that although an offer of £1,000 was made to Mr. Rogers to settle the suit in which Sir William Rose was co-respondent, Mr. Rogers had indignantly refused it. This offer came through a mysterious Mr. Maddox, who had been stated to be Sir William Rose's partner. Sir George Lewis said he had never even heard the name of Maddox until now. Other evidence was adduced to deny the suggestion that Mr. Jerrard was substituted as co-respondent instead of Sir William Rose by any sort of connivance on Sir William Rose's part. Mr. Yelverton said every effort had been made to find Maddox, but he could not be traced. The President said that being so

THE VEIL WAS DROPPED

at the very point where the matter became interesting. Obviously Sir George Lewis was quite prepared to swear on oath on behalf of Sir William Rose, but he should like to see the man Maddox and see whether he had, either at Sir William Rose's instance or on his own initiative, come to any collusive agreement. Sir William Rose was then called. He stated that he was a stockbroker. He never heard of the man Maddox, and he never authorized anybody to offer £1,000 or any sum whatever for the settlement of the suit. He had never heard of Mr. Jerrard in his life before to-day. Sir George Lewis, re-called, said he had never heard of Maddox, and so far from Mr. Rogers being insulted by the alleged offer of £1,000, on the very day that offer was alleged to have been made by Maddox, Rogers was, through his solicitors, asking for £5,000.

Mr. W. J. Robertson, manager of the Strand Theatre was called to prove that when he first told Rogers what he had heard of Minnie Palmer and Jerrard, Rogers was thoroughly astounded and could hardly believe it. Mr. Yelverton said that every effort had been made to subpœna Mr. Rogers's solicitor in the former suit, Mr. Hilson, of Richmond, but he could never be found in. His lordship said he should desire to see that solicitor. If it turned out that Mr. Rogers had sold his suit against Sir William Rose for the money he received, he might be debarred from getting a divorce on the grounds of his wife's misconduct with any other co-respondent. If it were not for the question of domicile, he should certainly think that the suit had so been sold, but of course he might be that during the difficulty of overcoming the domicile question Sir William Rose had raised, Mr. Rogers had preferred to join another party as co-respondent. The case would be again adjourned for the attendance of Mr. Tilson.

OSCAR WILDE'S BAIL ACCEPTED.

WHO THE SURETIES ARE.

Mr. Vaughan, at Bow-street police-court to-day, accepted the proposed sureties for Oscar Wilde, and granted bail. The necessary orders for the release of the prisoner were accordingly issued. The sureties are Lord Douglas of Hawick and the Rev. Stewart Headlam. Mr. Angus Lewis, for the Treasury, made no objection, and Detective-Inspector Brockwell, of Scotland Yard, said the inquiries that had been made were satisfactory. The amounts are each surety in £1,250, and Wilde in his own recognizances for £2,500.

THE PROSECUTION OF JABEZ BALFOUR.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRIAL.

Mr. Charles Mathews and Mr. Horace Avery, the prosecuting counsel in the case against the five directors of the Balfour group of companies which was tried in the preliminary stage before Mr. Alderman Davies at the Guildhall, will also appear on Thursday next in the prosecution of Jabez Spencer Balfour. It is stated that the prosecution wish to finish the police-court proceedings before the next Old Bailey sessions, which commence on the 20th inst., and they will endeavour to put in as evidence the depositions taken in the trial at the Guildhall, so as to save the necessity of placing the witnesses in the box before Sir John Bridge. The chief evidence at the Guildhall was given by Mr. Wheeler, the Official Receiver, and his evidence occupied five days.

A NISI PRIUS NUISANCE.

MRS. THOMPSON EJECTED FROM THE LAW COURTS.

Mrs. Thompson again found her way into the Lord Chief Justice's court, and asked his lordship, who was sitting with Mr. Justice Charles as a Divisional Court this morning, for access to her boy. The Lord Chief Justice said: I have on several occasions told you as considerately as I could, and I think very clearly, that the matters of which you have complained have been dealt with in the Court of Appeal, and so long as that judgment stands this court has no jurisdiction. Your only remedy is—

Mrs. Thompson: I know what my remedy is as well as you do. I must have a *mandamus* and the case must be tried again. The Lord Chief Justice: There are limits to patience. You have been heard and you have abused the patience. Now leave this court. Mrs. Thompson then expressed her intention of interviewing the Queen on the subject, saying that her Majesty would be at home this afternoon. She was then ejected from the court, saying that she had as much right to justice as any peer of the realm.

THE TRAGEDY AT WESTPORT.

A Westport correspondent states that a coroner's inquest was held yesterday on the body of Miss Landen, whose throat was cut by her brother, and returned a verdict that the cause of death was a wound inflicted by Patrick Landen, who was of unsound mind at the time and incapable of understanding what he was doing. The jurors expressed their sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Landen and their family. Patrick Landen, who is in hospital at Westport, is progressing favourably.

CHARGE OF SHIP SCUTTLING.

Henry Howden, chief engineer, was remanded at Stockton-on-Tees to-day on the charge of attempting to scuttle the steamship *Haverstock* on a voyage from America to Stockton.

General von Pape, the distinguished Prussian General, died in Berlin early this morning.

A WHITECHAPEL "RIPPING" CASE.

EXHAUSTIVE POLICE INQUIRIES.

SOME CURIOUS COINCIDENCES.

Since the cessation of the Whitechapel murders there has been no lack of theories accounting for the disappearance of the author of those crimes, "Jack the Ripper," as he is called, in consequence of a series of letters so signed, purporting, rightly or wrongly, to come from the murderer. The theory entitled to most respect, because it was presumably based upon the best knowledge, was that of Chief Inspector Swanson, the officer who was associated with the investigation of all the murders, and Mr. Swanson believed the crimes to have been the work of a man who is now dead. Latterly, however, the police have been busy investigating the case of William Grant Grainger, who was caught in the act of wounding a woman in the abdomen, in a street close by Buck's-row, the scene of the first of the real series of Whitechapel murders, those outrages in which the victims were killed and left horribly mutilated in the streets. Grainger's crime so much resembled the former outrages that infinite pains were taken to trace his antecedents. Nothing was found, however, to warrant placing him upon his trial for any previous outrage, and on March 27 last he was brought up at the Old Bailey charged with feloniously wounding Alice Graham. Police-constable Fraser related that at two in the morning on February 10 he was in Butler-street, Spitalfields, and heard a moaning. He went to the bottom of the street, and in Tenter-street found the woman Graham lying on the pavement, bleeding. The prisoner was stooping over her, and another constable was approaching from the other end of the street, blocking the prisoner's egress. On seeing Fraser, prisoner stood up and stepped away a few feet. The woman, who alleged she was bleeding to death, was taken on an ambulance to the hospital, and Fraser arrested the man, who

SAID NOTHING UNTIL ON THE WAY TO THE STATION,

when he volunteered remarks to the effect that the woman had been extortionate. The officer afterwards returned to the spot and found a knife. The woman's story, as she subsequently related it, was that the man was a stranger to her, except that she had previously seen him treating women. On the night of the stabbing she had met him in the street at 10.30, and had wandered about with him from public-house to lodging-house, trying to get a room. It was while on the way to a coffee-house in White's-row at two in the morning that prisoner dragged her down "some yard," as she described it, threw her on the ground, and ripped her in the stomach. She was quite sober, she asserted, and although prisoner had been drinking he was not drunk. The house-surgeon at the London Hospital described the wound as a serious one, but not dangerous to life. It was an inch and three-quarters long. The Recorder, declaring that the facts would have fully justified a verdict of wounding with intent to murder, had such an indictment been preferred, sentenced Grainger to ten years' penal servitude. There the matter rests, and must remain doubtless for all time; but the results of the police inquiries concerning the prisoner are, perhaps, worth recording. He is a man of about 37, 5 ft. 10 in. in height, slim-built, with grey eyes, pale complexion, no beard, and a black moustache. He has scars on cheek and throat, and dancing women, crowns, anchors, and so on, tattooed on his arms and hands. He was born at Cork, and left home at the age of fifteen to go to sea. In December, 1833, he enlisted in the Cork City Artillery, and attended the trainings annually from 1834 to 1839 inclusively. In 1899 he was discharged, his character being bad. The

WHITECHAPEL MURDERS OCCURRED CHIEFLY IN 1888,

but of course there is nothing inconsistent with Grainger being in London during 1888 as well as at his artillery training, for that training only lasted one month or less. But although there is nothing inconsistent with his presence in London in 1888, there is nothing to prove that he was here, and nothing, indeed, to prove where he was at all. He describes himself as a ship's fireman, but the ships he has been on cannot be traced. His mother is unable to give the name of any ship, and states that for years he has not stayed with her for longer than a week at a time once in two years. When in Ireland, according to a Royal Irish Constabulary report from Cork, he had been known to associate with loose women, and had been frequently stripped and robbed by them; and the last time he was with his mother he told her that about four years before his clothes were all stolen from him at Whitechapel. Even this does not give any idea whether he was in Whitechapel in 1888, because the mother cannot say how long ago it was that he spoke of the incident, which had occurred four years earlier. All the police could do was to compare the dates of the Whitechapel murders with the dates on which Grainger's whereabouts were known, with this result:—

May 16, 1888—July 7, 1888.—Grainger in Cork Workhouse.
July 9, 1888—August 4, 1888.—Grainger with the militia at Cork.
August 7, 1888.—Murder of the woman Turner, who was found dead with thirty-nine stabs, apparently bayonet wounds—a crime which is generally classed with the "Ripper" series, although it has a marked difference from the rest.
August 31, 1888.—Murder of the woman Nicholls in Buck's-row.
Sept. 8.—Murder of the woman Chapman in Hanbury-street.
Sept. 30.—Murders of the woman Stride in Berner's-street, and Eddowes in Mitre-square.
Nov. 9, 1888.—Murder of the woman Kelly in Miller's-court.
March 25, 1889—April 9—Grainger in Cork Workhouse.
April 23—June 6, 1889.—Grainger again in Cork Workhouse.
June 10—July 6, 1889.—Grainger with the Cork Militia.
July 17, 1889.—Murder of Alice McKenzie in Castle-alley.
Sept. 3—Oct. 8, 1889.—Grainger in Fulham Workhouse.
Sept. 10, 1889.—Discovery of a human trunk under an arch in Pinchin-street.
Jan. 29, 1890—March 5.—Grainger in Cork Workhouse.
Oct. 24—Oct. 29.—Grainger in Fulham Workhouse.
Nov. 22—Dec. 4.—Grainger again in Fulham Workhouse.
Jan. 30, 1891—Feb. 12.—Grainger again in Fulham Workhouse.

On February 12, the man was removed to Banstead Asylum, where he was detained until March 26. After that he is traced once more to Fulham Workhouse, yet again to Cork Workhouse, to St. Pancras Workhouse in 1893, to Stepney police cells in custody for drunkenness in 1894, and to Spitalfields cells for drunkenness last January. It will be noticed that

GRAINGER'S WHEREABOUTS ARE UNACCOUNTED FOR

at the time of each of the undoubted Whitechapel murders, the murders accompanied by mutilation. But on the 10th September, when the Pinchin-street corpse was found, and on 13th February, 1891, when the body of Frances Coleman was discovered in Swallow-gardens, Grainger was, on the former occasion, in Fulham Workhouse, and on the latter in Banstead Asylum. It is a little curious, therefore, to find, on referring back to the newspaper reports of those two cases, that both of these at the time were regarded by many as having no connection with the "Ripper" crimes. Both were absolutely different in their characteristics from the former murders. The body of Coleman was left unmutilated, for instance. Added to these circumstances, there is one person whom the police believe to have actually seen the Whitechapel murderer with a woman a few minutes before that woman's dissected body was found in the street. That person is stated to have identified Grainger as the man he then saw. But obviously identification after so cursory a glance, and after the lapse of so long an interval, could not be reliable; and the inquiries were at length pulled up in a *cul-de-sac*. We have not given this statement with any view of holding a brief against Grainger. On the contrary, there is absolutely nothing at all tangible to show that he ever stabbed any woman besides Alice Graham. But the statement may not prove uninteresting as a record of the enormous pains which the police devote to anything like a clue to that series of crimes, which will doubtless remain an impenetrable mystery for all time. One other small step may be suggested, for it does not appear to have been taken. Cannot a specimen of Grainger's handwriting be compared with some of the "Ripper" letters? There could be nothing conclusive about it, because, of course, the authenticity of those letters is regarded, rightly, with the greatest distrust. But it would, all the same, be an interesting experiment.

THE RETURN OF JABEZ.

HOW FROEST CAPTURED HIS PRISONER.

A gentleman who came back from Buenos Ayres on the *Tartar Prince* and enjoyed a good deal of Balfour's society on board, has given us the following account of the voyage: In consequence of the pressure brought to bear by Vice-Consul Gastrell and Mr. Froest, of the London Detective Department, on the 5th of April Balfour was placed at the disposal of these officials; but alas! no train was running from Salta on that day to Buenos Ayres. This looked disastrous, for fresh bogus charges were being brought against Balfour by his friends with a view to his further detention. But these two British representatives had anticipated difficulties of this kind and were not to be outwitted, for about two miles from Salta they had in readiness an engine and car, and immediately the Governor's sanction was given for the removal of the prisoner, the station-master Pettigrew, with Mr. Froest, fired up the engine themselves and brought it up to Salta. A native driver was engaged, and Balfour and Miss Freeman were hurried into the car, accompanied by the Governor's officials and Mr. Gastrell. Mr. Froest, armed, jumped on to the engine, evidently to guard against any attack on the way from Balfour's numerous friends, and away they went, but not a moment too soon, for suddenly a troop of horsemen were seen galloping full speed, shouting at the top of their voices, Borthwick, Balfour's friend and his lawyer and the criminal judge frantically waving documents for the detention of Balfour, and being followed and supported by the Salta police authorities. But the start had been made, and the engine-driver was instructed to push on as fast as possible, leaving the lawyer and police gnashing their teeth with rage at losing Balfour. Never did an engine travel so fast in South America. The furnace door stood open, fuel continually being dashed on, the heat intense, and those on the engine black from head to foot, their clothes scorched and covered in oil; but nothing could stop the British detective now from taking his prisoner, unless a rail should be torn up or some of the railway points tampered with. These

RISKS MUST BE RUN AT ALL HAZARDS.

On they rushed, swinging from side to side. A horse and rider were run over and killed on the spot. Here was trouble indeed, for the Argentine law permits the arrest of those on the engine in such a case when resulting in a death. They were stopped at Tucuman, some 500 miles from Salta, and the police arrested the engine-driver. Another engine and car was waiting in readiness to proceed to Buenos Ayres, arriving on the morning of the 7th of April. The first steamer starting for England was the *Tartar Prince*, advertised to sail on or about the 29th of March, and had been detained owing to insufficiency of water in the dock. Passages were immediately taken for Mr. Froest and Balfour, the third officer's cabin being fitted up for the latter. These quarters were very warm, being in close proximity to the engine-room. Strong locks, bolts, and bars were fitted in order to make it perfectly secure. On their arrival at the ship the prisoner was taken to the captain's cabin and ordered by the English officer to strip, which he refused to do, appealing to the Buenos Ayres police authorities. However, Mr. Froest insisted on searching the prisoner in his way, and threatened to do so by force. Miss Freeman now put in an appearance and demanded to be taken with Balfour, but was ordered to leave the ship, and, after bidding Balfour an affectionate farewell, left, and took her passage on the Italian liner *Duc de Galiera*. Everything was ready, the pilot on board, and we were informed that we should sail in the afternoon. There were 2,450 sheep on the deck in three tiers, a small portion of the centre of the vessel being reserved to accommodate 45 passengers and 16 cattle men, and we had also 5,000 tons of cargo. The water continued to rise, but the pilot later on stated that he could not yet leave. All were disappointed, for the following morning we were told the water had fallen during the night. The *Tartar Prince* was too big to go into dock at Buenos Ayres, and there was no knowing how long we might be here. I saw Mr. Froest walking about with an anxious expression, and we talked of the probability of

SOME FRESH SCHEME

being brought for Balfour's detention by his influential friends. True enough, the following morning (April 10) two gentlemen, Balfour's lawyer and a Salta official, came on board and demanded to see Balfour. Mr. Froest, with me as interpreter, interviewed these gentlemen, and when I translated their errand Mr. Froest peremptorily refused to allow them to see Balfour, and in order to avoid a disturbance, at Mr. Froest's request, I went ashore to bring the Vice-Consul on board. While driving to the *Tartar Prince* with Mr. Gastrell he stopped a messenger and gave instructions to immediately double the police guard provided by the Buenos Ayres Government. On arrival at the ship we were informed that the two gentlemen had by this time worked themselves into a great rage, and stated that according to Argentine law the British detective-officer had no power to detain the prisoner, after fourteen hours' detention, without communication, or prevent him seeing his friends. The inspector abruptly left them and went to his room and secured his revolver, and then, through one of the passengers, said the Buenos Ayres Government had placed two armed naval seamen at his disposal, and if the Salta gentlemen persisted in carrying out their threats he should give them the order to fire. They immediately left, stating they would bring a means to compel the inspector to give way. Fortunately the water rose in the afternoon, and we were able to get out to sea, but I feel sure had we not been able to do so the two gentlemen would have returned with some fresh means for Balfour's detention. For the first few days out Balfour gave his custodian

CONSIDERABLE ANXIETY,

being in low spirits, and temper not of the best, but after a few days' confinement was thoroughly tamed; and then the detective allowed him to spend his afternoons in the captain's cabin on the bridge, and it was here that a few of the passengers had an opportunity of seeing him. He appeared to be a particularly sharp man, being well acquainted with all the inner workings of the finance and products of the Argentine Republic, and was also able to converse in Spanish. He has a very large head and heavy brow, fat cheeks and neck; he is short in stature and very corpulent; large hands and feet, and he is a tremendous eater, and drank to a great extent during his residence in Salta. Balfour's handcuffs were of a peculiar make and very safe, being well in keeping with our detective force. These handcuffs were much admired by the Argentine police, who, at the request of the British Consul, guarded the ship while she lay in dock, and who also were very hospitably treated by their European colleagues. The handcuffs were attached to an iron seat on the captain's bridge, and one of their admirers closed them on his wrist and could not be released until the inspector came with his key."

THE CURIOUS DEFENCE TO AN ACTION.

The action brought by Messrs. Hancock and Slade, house-decorators, to recover £389 from Mr. Norman Brown, commercial traveller, of Duke-street, Manchester-square, for work done, was resumed yesterday before Mr. Justice Day and a special jury. An application was made at the outset for an adjournment on behalf of Mrs. Brown, but this was refused, and it was then stated that she was too ill to continue her evidence. She was, however, brought into court, and the cross-examination proceeded with. She denied that she had misconducted herself with Captain Weston, and said that her husband practically gave her permission to misconduct herself with Russell, in order that she might get an annuity from him. A letter from Mr. Brown was produced which contradicted this statement, but the witness said her husband wrote the letter to protect himself. Russell was between sixty and seventy, and she used to call him "Dad." Counsel then addressed the jury, Mr. Kemp leading off with the assertion that a viler woman than Mrs. Brown never stepped into that court; lies, disgrace, and dishonour tracked her steps wherever she went. Mr. Brown had made the mistake of loving not wisely, but too well, and had been deceived by her from beginning to end. The jury found a verdict for the defendant, but on another claim of £35 by the plaintiffs against Mrs. Brown for money lent, they found for the plaintiffs.

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POLITICAL NOTES.

Lord Rosebery has now decided to attend the reception and ball at the National Liberal Club to-morrow. A formal notification to this effect has been received by the Secretary, and when the fact transpired last evening among the Parliamentary supporters of the Prime Minister there was much satisfaction expressed that he had taken cognizance of the comments which his previously expressed intention of keeping away from the function had aroused.

Sir William Harcourt was not at the House of Commons yesterday, but Mr. Louis Harcourt was in the Lobby during part of the evening, and was able to explain that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was taking a rest at Malwood until to-day.

The Duke of Devonshire was a visitor to the Lobby of the House of Commons last evening, when he took the opportunity of conferring with Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Anstruther in the Liberal Unionists' Whip's room.

It has been determined by the Carlisle Conservatives to contest Mr. Gully's seat at the next election, and the leaders of the Conservative party have approved their action. The candidate is Mr. S. P. Foster, who yesterday received the following letter from Mr. Akers-Douglas: "Many thanks for your letter of the 21st telling me of the resolution of your local committee in Carlisle, in which they declare their intention of contesting the seat at the next election. I have taken counsel with those who have a right to express an opinion on the subject, and you may be assured there is no reason, based either on precedent or on the particular circumstances connected with the present Speaker's election, which should deprive the constituency of Carlisle to be represented in Parliament by a member sharing their political views. I hope, therefore, that no change will take place either in the policy of our party in Carlisle or in the energy with which they will carry on the contest."

Mr. Sidney Herbert's pair has now expired, and the Opposition will be deprived of a vote for an indefinite period. It is quite according to precedent, it appears, that the possibility of the appearance of an heir should be presumed for a certain period in such a case as the present, although as a matter of custom the interval is usually a very long one. But a case occurred only a few years ago in which a brother, heir presumptive, succeeded to a peerage only after an interval of close upon a year. He was not a member of the House of Commons, and the incident was not therefore noted at the time.

Lord Wolmer's, being a direct succession, comes into operation at once; and he is now, in the eyes of the Whips, no longer a member of the House of Commons, although the delicate point as to whether he can claim to continue to act is still an open question. It is said that when the controversy arose a year ago over the case of the present Lord Coleridge, Lord Wolmer, Mr. George Curzon, and Mr. Brodrick declared that whoever of them should first be called up to the House of Lords would test the question of his right to continue a member of the House of Commons by sitting and voting in that House until he thought it convenient to lay claim to his seat in the House of Lords. Members are anxious to see if Lord Wolmer will take any action in this direction. A doubt is expressed on the point, since the whole subject is now under consideration by a Committee of the House of Commons.

The division on Mr. Boscawen's instruction to the Committee on the Welsh Church Bill last evening, when the Government obtained a majority of 33, was a purely party one. Mr. Chamberlain voted with the Opposition. In commenting on the fact that he paired for the rest of the evening against the Government, the *Daily News* assumes that he thereby committed himself "against the principle of the bill, for the second reading of which he recorded his vote." It is usually regarded in the House of Commons that the vote on the second reading of a bill is the occasion on which a member affirms his support of or opposition to the principle of it. A night pair in Committee applies only to the particular amendment under discussion and others likely to be raised in the course of the evening; and none of last night's amendments affected the principle of the measure.

The Marquis of Ripon will visit Guildford on Thursday as the guest of Sir Algernon West, and will speak at a political meeting to be held in the town on the same evening.

A LADIES' BATTLE.

Before Mr. Justice Cave and a special jury yesterday, the case of Northcott *v.* Clowes was heard. In this case Miss Ella Jane Northcott, residing at Mutley, near Plymouth, sued Mrs. Susan Clowes, a widow, residing at Carlton Lodge, Warley, Essex, to recover damages for an alleged libel and slander. The defendant denied publication and pleaded privilege and justification. Mr. Murphy, Q.C., and Mr. Gore Browne appeared for the plaintiff; while Mr. Jelf, Q.C., and Mr. Etherington Smith represented the defendant. It appeared that in 1894 plaintiff and her sister were carrying on a private hotel and boarding-house at 6, Woburn-place, and that in consequence of the illness of their mother the sister had to return to her parents at Plymouth. After carrying on the house alone for some time the plaintiff determined to sell it. The plaintiff's case was that in August last defendant called upon her and made her an offer of £400 for the business as a going concern, and the furniture and other articles which were contained in an inventory. On the 29th of September the purchase was completed, and when the plaintiff called for her boxes defendant accused her of fraud. In the following month defendant wrote to plaintiff's father reiterating the accusation. The plaintiff said there was not the slightest foundation for the accusation. She sold the house with an inventory, the defendant had checked the goods with the inventory, and the goods sold were left in the house. The furniture which had been removed was the property of Dr. Darby, a Congregational minister. The defendant contended that she purchased the house as it stood in August, and that when she took over the house she found that furniture and various other articles had been removed. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff for 25 guineas.

THIS MORNING'S WEATHER REPORT.

AT 9 A.M.—Bournemouth, N.E., fine; Ilfracombe, fine; Portsmouth, N.E., fine; Plymouth, E., fine; Southampton, N.E., fine; Weymouth, E., fine; Brighton, N.E., lovely morning, sea smooth, temp. 57; Eastbourne, N.E., fine morning, sea calm, 53; Hastings, N.E., warm sunshine, sea calm, 60; Worthing, N.E., lovely morning, sea calm, 54; Cromer, fine, 50, E.; Lowestoft, E., moderate breeze, 55, blue sky; Ipswich, Colchester, Harwich, Southend, and Newmarket, fine; Llandudno, E., fresh breeze, fine bright morning, sea choppy; Barmouth, lovely day, brilliant sunshine, pleasant soft breeze, sea calm; Queenborough, E., bright; Herne Bay, E., bright; Margate, E., fine; Ramsgate, E., fine; Dover, N.E., sea moderate, fine, clear, probable passage moderate; Aberystwith, calm, fine, warm day, sea smooth; Falmouth, E., fine, sea smooth.

AT 9.30 A.M.—Calais, fine, some clouds, light wind, fair passage, 47; Paris, warm sunshine, 54; Marseilles, blue sky, 58; Cannes, lovely morning, 59; Nice, fine morning, 60; Monte Carlo, warm sunshine, 59; Baden-Baden, blue sky, 47; Brussels, 48; Ostend, fine morning, 50; Zermatt, fine, some clouds, 52; Sierre Montana, very fine, 55; Lucerne, wants Montreux, lovely morning, 50; Vevey, clear sky, 57; Lausanne, blue sky, 51; Berne, lovely morning, 48; Interlaken, warm sunshine, 50; Neuchatel, fine, 55; Chateau d'Oex Rossinières, clear sky, 46; Geneva, very fine, 54.

TO-MORROW'S MAILS AND SHIP LETTERS.

MAILS TO BE DESPATCHED.—Morning: to West Indies and Pacific via Southampton; to United States, &c., via Southampton; Supplementary Mails to Martinique, Guadeloupe, Venezuela, Republic of Colombia, Pacific, &c., by French Packet: to Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, Beyrout, Egypt, Aden, India, Ceylon, China, Straits Settlements, Siam, Borneo, Java, and Sarawak, and to West Indies (Parcel Mails). Evening: to United States, Canada (except Nova Scotia), Bahamas, Bermudas, Mexico, Belize, and Guatemala via Queenstown; to Lisbon, Brazil, Monte Video, Buenos Ayres, Chili, Bolivia, and Peru via Liverpool; to Canada and Portugal via Liverpool (Parcel Mails).

MAILS DUE.—From United States, &c., via Southampton.

PRIVATE SHIP LETTERS.—The ——, from Liverpool for Philadelphia; the *Mira*, from Liverpool for Barbados, Trinidad, La Guayra, Porto Cabello, Curacao, Savanilla, and Carthagena; the *Albert, Edith, Swift*, or *Leona* from Hull for Rotterdam; the *Seahorse* or *Europeana*, from Hull for Amsterdam; the *Hanza, Sultan, Flamingo*, or *Spero*, from Hull for Hamburg; the ——, from Grangemouth for Tonsberg and Christiania; the ——, from Southampton for Havre.

Pall Mall Gazette Office,

18, CHARING CROSS ROAD, W.C.

The Prince and Princess of Wales's dinner party last evening at Marlborough House to meet the Queen-Regent of Holland was a brilliant affair, most of the members of the Royal Family being present. The Princess of Wales arrived early in the afternoon from Sandringham, and received the guests. The young Queen of Holland was not present. Lord Rosebery represented the Government, but Lord Kimberley was prevented by his recent bereavement from attending. The Queen-Regent drove in a semi-State carriage to the dinner.

The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Coburg, the Duke of York, and Prince Alfred of Coburg, surprised Pall Mall yesterday by walking arm-in-arm down the shady side at noon. They all made a call at the German Embassy, and quietly strolled back to Marlborough House. They were received by every one with respectful salutations, which they most cordially returned in every case.

Earl Howe is to be the Gold-Stick-in-Waiting at the Drawing Room to-morrow, and Captain Stopford, Sir Spencer Ponsonby-Fane, Sir Francis Knollys, Captain the Hon. O. F. S. Cuffe, and the Hon. Aubrey Fitzclarence will be the Gentlemen Ushers on duty.

The Duchess of Coburg is now at Clarence House, having arrived late last evening from Darmstadt, where she has been staying for several days. The Duchess looks very well. She is to visit the Queen at Buckingham Palace to-day, and will be present at to-morrow's Drawing Room. The Duke and Duchess are to give several dinner parties while in London; and a garden party, such as was held last year, is in contemplation. The Duchess was too late in arriving to be present at the Marlborough House dinner, but the Duke and Prince Alfred were present.

The Duchess of Teck is to pay a visit of a couple of days' duration on the 10th inst., to Lord and Lady Cantelupe at their beautiful place, Manor House, Bexhill.

Queen Wilhelmina was yesterday driven in an open carriage through the City streets at the busiest time of the day, and the teeming crowds greatly interested her. The Tower Bridge and its bascules were viewed, and then there was a visit to the Guildhall, where all the relics of ancient London, including old pictures, treaties, coins, seals, and books were shown and explained to her. The young Queen and her mother leave Victoria Station at seven o'clock on Thursday evening for Queenborough on their return to Holland.

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon and the Ladies Gordon Lennox have arrived at 49, Belgrave-square from Goodwood, where they have been residing during the last six months. The Prince of Wales and Prince and Princess Christian and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein will be guests at Goodwood during the races, which begin on July 30; but the Princess of Wales and her daughters will probably leave for England by that time, as they are to visit the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland at Gmunden, in Upper Austria, before going to Denmark in the autumn.

The Duchess of Buccleuch and the Ladies Scott have arrived at Montagu House from Bowhill, the family seat in Selkirkshire, where the Duke remains for a short time longer.

The Archbishop of York, who has arrived in town from Bishopthorpe Palace, will proceed on Friday to Sheffield to meet the Duke and Duchess of York, and on Sunday morning he is to institute Canon Eyre as Vicar of Sheffield in the parish church. The Archbishop is to be the University Preacher at Cambridge on the 19th.

The Hon. Dudley F. Fortescue and Mrs. Fortescue are touring in Italy, and will not return to Summerville, their seat in the South of Ireland, before September.

Mrs. Cornwallis West, who has been somewhat seriously indisposed at her sister, Mrs. Windham's, residence at Canterbury, has now returned to Newlands Manor, Lymington.

Mr. H. E. Kearley, M.P., has taken Spinfield, Mr. Hay Murray's house at Marlow, for the season.

To-day is the forty-eighth birthday of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. He succeeded his grandfather as fifth earl in 1868.

Lord Ripon had yesterday to give a severe snub to the Ashanti envoys. They were told they must not come to the Colonial Office—envoys from the King of Kumasi, but they braved the order, and went to the office, where they were told by the messengers they could not be received by any one. This was Lord Ripon's order. The envoys wrote a letter and left it, and then tried the Foreign Office, where they also failed to receive official audience.

Mr. Sydney Buxton, M.P., Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, has appointed the Hon. A. O. Murray, Master of Elibank, to be his assistant private secretary.

The Secretaryship of her Majesty's Office of Works and Public Buildings, about to become vacant by the promotion of Mr. Plunkett, carries a salary of £1,200 per annum, rising after five years to £1,500. Mr. Primrose's predecessor in the post was Mr. A. B. Freeman-Mitford, now M.P. for South Warwickshire, who held the appointment from 1874 until 1886.

Monsignor Talbot has been installed Provost of the Archdiocese of Westminster, a position rendered vacant by the death of the late Monsignor Gilbert. Monsignor Talbot, who is now in his eightieth year, is the second son of the second Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, and uncle of the present Earl. He is a canon of the Westminster Archdiocese, and domestic prelate to the Pope, and was for many years rector of the Church of the Assumption, Golden-square, until his failing health necessitated his retirement, two years ago, from all parochial duties.

Bishop Hanlon, with a company of missionaries, is to set out this week from the Catholic Foreign Missionary College, at Mill Hill, to the district of the Upper Nile, in Equatorial Africa. Cardinal Vaughan officiated and preached at the interesting "departure ceremonies," which took place at Mill Hill last evening.

Kimberley churchyard, where the funeral of the late Countess of Kimberley is announced to take place, contains a small but neat church in the Early Decorated style, with a square tower and two bells. In 1863 the greater part of the tower was rebuilt by the Wodehouse family, and at various times since then the sacred edifice has been beautified and enriched through the generosity of Lord Kimberley's ancestors, and last by himself.

The members of the Jockey Club, to the number of more than fifty, will be entertained at dinner by the Prince of Wales at Marlborough House on Wednesday, the 29th, being the evening of the Derby Day.

One of the most successful breeders of prize shorthorns in the country has passed away in the person of Mr. Joseph Deane-Willis, whose death took place at his residence, Bapton Manor, Wiltshire, a few days ago. Mr. Deane-Willis was lord of the manor of Bapton, and his loss will be deeply felt in the neighbourhood, where he was very popular.

The Marquis of Winchester has been re-elected President of the Western (or Andover) Division of the Hampshire Conservative Association.

The Princess of Wales has consented to open a grand bazaar in aid of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, at the Portman Rooms, on Thursday, June 27.

The Duchess of Albany has consented to be present at the annual meeting of the Children's Country Holidays Fund, 10, Buckingham-street, Strand, on the afternoon of May 17, at the Hotel Metropole.

Mr. Edward Terry was kind enough a few nights ago to take part in some amateur theatricals at Bromley, Kent, in connection with the local habitation of the Primrose League. He, however, acted under the name of E. H. Alderson, and appeared as Robert in "Dreams Faces," a curtain-raiser which was performed at the Garrick Theatre some few years ago. He also assumed the *rôle* of Sir Jeremy Jobbler in "The Duchess of Bayswater and Co." Mr. Terry's secret was well kept, and it may be interesting to mention that at the conclusion of the performance several ladies and gentlemen exclaimed, "How good for an amateur!"

SPORTING NOTES AND NEWS.

THE PAN-BRITANNIC MOVEMENT.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I have only just been able to read the remarks lately made upon the athletic section of the "Pan-Britannic" scheme "From a Correspondent" in your journal. It his communication may be termed a criticism, it is rather justification of the truth of a remark once made that the critic of critics is he who writes confidently about that of which he knows least. For a long time past I have, of course, seen attacks in several journals, but I have remained from taking any notice of them, because, in the first place, at least and soonest mended; and, secondly, notwithstanding these attacks, the idea of the establishment of a non-political periodic gathering for the British and English-speaking peoples has steadily gone ahead.

I thank your correspondent for the information that at the annual conference of the English swimming clubs at Leamington a resolution was passed in favour of the athletic section of the Pan-Britannic scheme. This was my first intelligence of this support.

It would be distasteful to me to go into all the misleading statements and mischievous insinuations which are made by your correspondent, and evidently intended to confuse the public as to the object of the scheme and its ultimate support. I will briefly state the real position of affairs. The Pan-Britannic scheme was, as is generally known, received with favour in the colonies. Meetings in support of it were held in Canada and in South Africa, and in Australia a Pan-Britannic Conference was held, representatives attending from all parts of Australasia and New Zealand. Here the athletic section of the scheme was approved, and the secretary of the conference was instructed to write home to the leading associations, asking if they would send a representative to confer in London and discuss the project. The M.C.C. and the Amateur Swimming Association have expressed themselves in favour of this conference, while the A.A.A. and the A.A.U. have undertook to negative it, the latter association tempering its letter of refusal by a cordial invitation to colonial crews to come and compete at Henley. "My committee," wrote the secretary of the A.A.A, "are anxious not to be misunderstood. If a crew of colonial amateurs ever come to this country the members of this committee or English amateur oarsmen generally will extend to them the right hand of fellowship, and will do everything they can to make their stay here as pleasant as possible."

It is absurd and mischievous to say, as your correspondent does, that the colonial bodies were considered first and the home associations last. No one knows the true state of affairs better than the home associations, who ignored the colonies until it was found no longer to be ignored; and the colonial bodies, who were always given to understand that the idea could not be put into practice without the approval and co-operation of the governing bodies of sport in this country. An extract from a communication in one of to-day's papers from a South African correspondent respecting the South African championships will show what desire or the colonial to work in harmony with the home associations.

When the idea was first broached to start this South African association the moving spirits were at once put in communication with the secretary of the A.A.A., as the proper person to conduct such a negotiation. While arguing the question of representation at periodic intervals, we have never forgotten the fact that the right people to work the arrangements are the associations already in existence, and never for a moment have we designed the formation of an association to rival or supersede in any way the existing governing bodies.

Your correspondent taunts the supporters of the Pan-Britannic movement with possessing imaginative powers. Well, we have ideas, and we have an ideal, if that is what your correspondent means, and I for one always like to take a bright view of things. Perhaps we ought to be a little more pessimistic to suit your correspondent, who seems to have come, in a lamentably early day, to the conclusion that when the "Pan-Britannic" does come about it will be sure to ruin, and that the games will have to be held under some cover.

Now, as for the words, "Everything is tending towards the realization of our hopes," which your correspondent has imagined is our state of mind. Well, I have been told by a leading man in the world of sport that the Pan-Britannic is the bogey of the organizers of our athletic associations, and they are urging haste to make their annual gatherings as representative as possible of the best of the English-speaking world, so as to be able to say "This thing is not required." Only keep your underclothes on, Mr. Editor, and be unmoved and do as much as your friends to carry it out." Personally I do not care who carries the idea out, as long as it is carried out; but as long as the leading athletic associations are equally divided among themselves as to the necessity or not of the proposals made by the secretary of the Pan Britannic Conference in Australia, I do not see what advance can be made. I am afraid, therefore, though they may do their utmost to make their individual gatherings as representative as possible. Mind you, I am not detracting in any way from the hard work in the past, present, or future of these individual associations, for which they are entitled to hearty thanks. Your correspondent remarks that on account of the trial of strength between our universities established in English-speaking lands would, if successful, pave the way for the Pan-Britannic. I quite agree with him. I have long advocated this, and think that a gathering under the auspices of Yale, Harvard, and Princeton Universities in America, and in England under the auspices of Oxford and Cambridge, would assuredly grow to be one of the greatest athletic gatherings of the day, especially if the Australian, the Canadian, and South African academic institutions send also their contingents.

In conclusion, I would say that the supporters of the "Pan-Britannic" desire no favour but fair play.—I am, your obedient servant,

May 3. J. ASTLEY COOPER.

THE COTLEY HARRIERS' RUN OF THE SEASON.

Now that the hunting season is fast coming to an end, the following account of a recent run with the Cotley Harriers, contributed by a correspondent of *Land and Water*, should prove interesting reading, especially to those who are familiar with the Taunton country:—

"On Tuesday, April 30, they put in another grand day (but a little bird whispers not positively the last) from Lancen. There was a dense fog, but after waiting upwards of an hour it somewhat lifted, and hounds were thrown into Beedham Wood. Not finding here, or in Crowley Bottom, hounds were, by the kind courtesy of the masters of the Taunton Vale, taken to Hatch Wood, where it was at once evident that a fox was near, and we were quickly away close to the brush of one of the gamest foxes that ever stood before hounds. With a burning scent they race to Southay, through Crowley Bottom, across the Downs, leaving Holey to the left, over Park Hill through Whitestumps Wood, across the water to Knapp, and down by the banks of the Yartey, over the hill to Burnis Top, on through Crawley Farm by Coaxdon Common, through Haveland to Tribbleshayes. Here the log came on again very thick, and the pack nearly spreadeagled the field by turning short and running hard up the valley to Crawley, up the deer cutting, and on nearly to Whitestaunton village. Bearing to the left here, they went away close to their fox to Betham Moor, over North Leigh to Combe Beacon, on by Straight Ash, nearly to Paddle Moor. Swinging to the right, they run by Stickleplath, leaving Combe St. Nicholas to the left, through Weeks, skirting Hales Copse to Snowdon, where, leaving Chard to the left, they run by Red Post, through Dennett's Farm to Beer Woods, across the Wambrook Valley through Hay copse, passing close to the kennels at Broad Oak, over Lancen and Prideaux farms, leaving Dr. Palmer's Pit on the left, nearly to Bodley Rock. Bearing right-handed now, they take up, with pumped horses, through Dowlands and John Deane's plantation to Wortheal, by Moorcot across Weston Farm. Skirting Great Royal, he crosses the Taunton and Chard road, but turns short, and they push him merrily on to Beddemore, on by Buckland St. Mary, through Long Ley Copse, crossing the stream into the Yarcombe covers at Cad Wood. Finding here the earths here closed, this fine old game fox again faces the open, and they run him through Bishop Wood to Moorsick Farm, where they bowl him over in the open as still as a crutch, after running incessantly for four hours and a half. Taking the three sides of the triangle he ran, they were eight mile points as the crow flies, and it must have been considerably over thirty five miles as hounds ran.

"It is needless to say that horses were done to a turn, the few who struggled to the finish being the Master, on his good old chestnut; Captain Coaxdon, who was presented with the brush; Dr. Tinney, who took the mask; Jack Castlestole, country all over, never remounted; and that knight; Major Langdon, Charles Jack, Tom, Reg, and Herbert Eames; W. Slocombe-Bevins, Jack Mitchell, and Captain Fuller. This was without doubt, the run of the season; hounds must have covered as before stated, a good thirty-five miles, running through three counties and nine parishes."

TO READERS ABSENT FROM TOWN AND COUNTRY RESIDENTS

Readers temporarily absent from town or country residents, may have the SPECIAL EDITION of the PALL MALL GAZETTE, containing the LATEST NEWS, sent to ANY ADDRESS in the UNITED KINGDOM for one week for 1s. 9d.; for one fortnight for 3s. 6d.; for one month at the rate of NINEPENCE PER WEEK. ONE SHILLING PER WEEK to ANY ADDRESS upon the CONTINENT.

THIS DAY'S CRICKET.

M.C.C. v. LEICESTERSHIRE

A long day's cricket was witnessed at Lord's yesterday in the annual fixture between the Marylebone Club and Leicestershire, play lasting from twelve noon until half-past six. The Club had the good fortune to bat first, and realized in their first innings 167, Leicestershire replying with 103. On going in a second time the M.C.C., in just over half an hour, scored 59 for the loss of one wicket, so that, with nine wickets to fall, they hold a lead of 113. Proceedings were resumed this morning in most charming weather, but there was a marked falling-off in the attendance. Flowers (20) and Davidson (20) resumed their innings against the bowling of Stocks (Nursery end) and Pougher.

M.C.C.—FIRST INNINGS.

Mr. A. N. Hornby, st Whitehile, b Pougher	12	Davis c & b Woodcock, b Stocks	16
Mr. C. W. Wright, b Hillyard	15	Bentley, b Stocks	0
Flowers, b Stocks	20	Mr. Bardsley, b Hillyard	0
Cuttle, b Woodcock	0	J. T. Hearne, not out	0
Mr. G. MacGregor, c Whitehile, b Stocks	55	Extras	9
Mr. C. P. Vernon, c Whitehile, b Stocks	55	Total	167
Charlwood, b Hillyard	4		
Mr. A. Hearne, c and b Stocks	2		

M.C.C.—SECOND INNINGS.

Mr. C. W. Wright, run out	1	Shutter, b Coupland	14
Flowers, b Stocks	27	Extras	11
Davidson, c Jones, b Stocks	17	Total	103
Cuttle, not out	2		

LEICESTERSHIRE.—FIRST INNINGS.

Mr. De Trafford, b Hearne	0	Charsley, b Wright	2
Coe, lbw, b Mr. A. Hearne	0	Mr. Burnaby, b Mr. A. Hearne	8
Holland, b Hearne	1	Woodcock, run out	4
Jones, run out	9	Whitehile, not out	0
Mr. G. Brown, b Wright	13	Extras	2
Pougher, b Martin	23	Total	103
Warren, st Shrewsbury, b Martin	4		

WARWICKSHIRE v. ESSEX.

This match was resumed at Birmingham to-day. Score:

ESSEX.—FIRST INNINGS.

Mr. H. G. Owen, c Stilton, b Mr. Quaife	68	Russell, not out	15
Carpenter, c W. Quaife, b Smallbone	23	Mr. H. Horner, not out	0
Mr. C. J. Ford-Hall, c and b Burton	1	Extras	3
Mr. G. A. Higgins, c W. G. Quaife, b Burton	1	Total	333
Mr. C. M. Quaife, b Burton	113		
Barnes, c W. G. Quaife, b Pike	114		

Later.—355 for six wickets.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SENIORS' MATCH.

MR. W. S. CASES SIDE.—FIRST INNINGS.

Mr. W. Case, c Headlam, b Watkins	68	Mr. J. C. Barry, c Arkwright	10
Mr. B. Bosworth-Smith, run out	11	Mr. D. Macfadzhan, b Arkwright	0
Mr. H. Stanley, b Watkins	2	Mr. F. M. Quinton, b Arkwright	0
Mr. G. O. Smith, c Bellow, b Woodward	75	Mr. F. M. Compton, b Arkwright	3
Mr. F. Clayton, c Arkwright, b Ogilvie	35	Mr. E. Perceval, not out	2
Mr. R. H. Spooner, b Arkwright	19	Extras	25
Mr. C. Stanley, b Woodward	4	Total	377
Mr. A. N. Bury, c Bowe, b Arkwright	84		

FROM CLUB AND COURSE.

Racing commences at Chester to-day, when everything seems to promise well for a successful meeting. For years this old-fashioned racecourse seemed to be falling into hopeless distavour, but its prospects have now taken a turn for the better, thanks to recent improvements. There will be, moreover, an uncommonly large field for the Cup; for nearly twenty years there have not been more than twelve runners, and often enough the number has been expressed by a single figure. We are glad to notice that the arrival list is of capital dimensions and quality.

Since we wrote yesterday as to the prospects of certain candidates for next Saturday's popular Jubilee Stakes the market has altered considerably. Stowmarket is now first in popularity, thanks to a report that Ravensbury had come badly out of a trial with Irish Cur. We understand, however, that Cur is fancied in Mr. Marsh's big double-event bet on Reminder and Ravensbury, so those that fancy the latter's chance may be fairly sure of a good run for their money. As we anticipated, Avington already stands at a shorter price, and we should not be surprised to see him further improve in favouritism. Of the others, Indian Queen seems also likely to attract a shorter quotation than the 100 to 6 at which she stands at present. Much opposition set in last night with regard to Eucliz's chance in the Chester Cup, and it may be that after all this horse will not run until the Jubilee.

Captain J. A. Orr-Ewing writes the following important letter to this morning's *Sportsman* with regard to Cloister's memorable breakdown while being trained by Escott:—

"Sir,—Having just returned from India, and finding that the alleged poisoning of Cloister is again a burning question, I write at the request of several friends to state some facts about him when he was in my possession that may throw some light on his having gone wrong two years in succession. The facts are as follow: (i.) When he was in training at Upton as a quarter-old we were horrified to find him one morning quite paralyzed in his hind quarters. Strong remedies were at once applied, and he was able to meet his engagements. (ii.) When riding him at Aldershot he fell at the second brook, when winning easily, without apparent reason. By this accident I was not the loser one day a leg, but suddenly fell on the landing side like a log. He lay there with his tongue out for quite fifteen minutes, and I thought he was dying. (iii.) When he was purchased by me as a three-year-old no vet. would pass him, as he was lame both in front during all the time I had him he dragged one leg.—Yours truly,

Turf Club, May 6. J. A. ORR-EWING.

The cable informs us that the Royal Mail steamship *Optic*, with most of the members of Mr. Stoddart's team on board, arrived at Gibraltar on Saturday, and may, consequently, be expected at Plymouth before nightfall to-day, Tilbury being reached to-morrow afternoon. The three Surrey professionals should, therefore, be in time to represent the champion county against Leicestershire.

EXERCISE OF THE CHESTER CUP CANDIDATES.

It was a glorious morning at Chester, and the city walls were crowded with spectators, though only privileged persons were allowed on the course itself. With eight of the Cup horses on the spot, there was plenty to occupy attention, and some good work was got through. The first to make his appearance was Hilton, who was sent a mile and a quarter at a good pace, and the horse was much liked by the onlookers. The Rush, with H. Chaloner in the saddle, galloped two miles. Son of a Gun cantered six furlongs with two stable companions, and then, M. Cannon riding, galloped close upon two miles, going in good style, and looking fit and well. Rock Dove, with Portmarnock and Gazetteer, cantered six furlongs, and then Clayton rode Rock Dove in a capital gallop of two miles, the horse pulling up fresh and well. Newcourt, looking a picture of the trainers art, with Colling in the saddle, after cantering, covered two miles at a nice pace, and gave general satisfaction. Quilon was sent one mile and a half with Royal Favour. Pitcher, Bradford up, went a mile and a half, Cowan bringing him along the last six furlongs, and the horse went well. Merrywise, ridden by Madden, and accompanied by Merry Scot, had a steady gallop of close on two miles.

Lord of the Dale is suffering from a slightly filled leg, and it is expected will have to forego his Chester Cup engagement. Conspicuous among the horses at exercise on the Roodee was the Irish three-year-old Portmarnock, who appears to have completed an excellent preparation for the Jubilee Stakes. He had a capital mile gallop this morning in company of Gazetteer, who runs for the Great Cheshire Handicap on Thursday.

ADDITIONAL ARRIVALS AT CHESTER.

Castano, Jew's Harp f., Bachelor of Arts, Richard, Prosperity, Miss Daisy c., Sweet Auburn, Dargas, Loveridge, Euclid, Bushey Park, Kilsallaghan, Contract, Seville, Oleander, The Quack, Rousseau's Dream, Rodomont, Cato, Thessalian, Thesaus, Astroscope.

LATEST CRICKET.

M.C.C.—180 for 5 wickets.

Essex.—All out for 410.

PRIZE-FIGHTING IN THE UNITED STATES.

NEW ORLEANS, Tuesday.—Yesterday the Senate at Tallahassee, Florida, passed a measure prohibiting prize-fighting in the district. The same bill will undoubtedly pass the House.

The New Orleans Supreme Court has given its decision forfeiting the charter of the Olympic Club, and thus prevents further prize-fighting in Louisiana.—*Central News.*

NEW YORK, Tuesday.—At the Coney Island Club last night Steve O'Donnell and Jake Kilrain met with small gloves for a substantial purse. The boxing was of a scientific order, but Kilrain was knocked out in the twenty-first round.—*Central News.*

THE EMPIRE THEATRE.

"FAUST."

It is not too much to say that the new ballet at the Empire fully fulfils anticipations. Even if it is not actually the finest spectacle ever put upon an English stage, one fails to remember any more elective, more delicately gorgeous, or more elaborately original. Stimulated, no doubt, by the deserved success of "Ali Baba" at an adjoining house, the Empire directorate has decided to show Londoners that the limit of apparent extravagance—which, however, really is sound commerce at enterprise—had not yet been reached. It now only remains to be seen whether the Alhambra folk can go one better. We have little doubt that they will make the attempt. Such are the uses of competition.

"Faust," like "Ali Baba" even goes much further into the realms of pantomime than the ballets which Leicester-square has been accustomed to show us. In fact, though there be plenty of elaborate dancing in the new production, one is yet aware all the time that the play is the thing to whose dramatic interest the rest of the performance is made subordinate. It may be well, therefore, to commence by discussing the pantomimists. Dominating the pantomime from start to finish is the Mephistopheles of Mdlle. Zanfretta. In her short-skirted costume of pink and gold she seems ubiquitous, and her facile expression in pantomime are through-at admirable. The conventional strut and action of Signorina Cavalazzi can almost be excused when she is so constantly in the company of so bewitching a fiend. Of the Marguerite of Miss Ada Vincent one can speak in terms of highest praise. Her pantomime excels even her dancing in gracefulness and beauty, so one scarcely regrets that, like the other principals" in the piece, she has no chance of displaying her skill in the dance. Little Mdlle. Cora makes a dainty Siebel, and Valentine's character is well indicated by Miss Parson. The popular story of "Faust" is somewhat rapidly told in the first two acts. The market-place in Nuremberg is first presented. No money has been spared on the dresses, yet here, by the bye, taste has been wasted. With strangely an exception these are decorative as they are brilliant. Throughout this is a ballet of bright colour, treated fantastically. The uniforms, for instance, of the band of drummers which brings on the soldiers are so admirably conceived that a spontaneous shout of approval from all parts of the house greeted their appearance on the stage. The music of the first two tableaux is by Herr Lutz, of the Gaiety, who is quite at his best in the march of the troops. After the Brocken scene the story departs from convention. Faust is taken by Mephistopheles to a kind of infernal Palace of Pleasure, where he is introduced to Cleopatra, Helen of Troy, and other famous courtesans of history who seem to be having a far better time than their dingy graves on earth merited. But in spite of all temptations Faust remains constant to an apparition. He has a vision of Marguerite, the lurid palace crumbles away, and instantly we see Miss Vincent, with the dimples in her cheeks a thought too accentuated, climbing down real golden stairs, accompanied by a band of winged child-angels. These last two scenes show a marvellous fund of imagination, and alone would make the ballet a triumphant success, and yet the mediæval tableaux are equally effective in their own way. The scenery of the Infernal Palace is by Herr Lautenschläger, who, it will be remembered, executed somewhat similar work in the charming ballet of "Katrina." His cloths surprise by the wonderful delicacy of their fabric and the free use of gilding and of the electric light. His staircase in the apotheosis scene is a triumph of light and splendour. As can easily be imagined, the infernal regions give ample scope to Mr. Wilhelm for ideas for the dresses of the *corps de ballet*; but these must be seen to be believed. Everything, moreover, seems to be on a larger scale than usual; instead of rows of eight dancers we get a file of twelve, and the orchestra itself seems to be half as large again as its normal size, without reckoning the pealing organ which has been specially built for this production. It is, in fact, in every way, a ballet to wonder at, and one which will try the rival house very hard.

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G. P. DE SAINT-MAURICE.
Paris, 6th May, 1895.

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And the
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Will be preached by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of BATH and WELLS.
The ANNUAL MEETING will be held in ST. JAMES'S HALL, on
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His Grace the
Archbishop of CANTERBURY
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The Meeting will be addressed by—
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The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of COLOMBO,
The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of GRAHAMSTOWN;
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The Rev. ARTHUR WESTCOTT, M.A., Principal of the S.P.G. Theological College, Madras.
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The Right Hon. the Earl of ERROL in the chair.
The Board of Management very earnestly APPEALS to the PUBLIC to enable it to meet the increasing calls upon the resources of this Institution. The number of cases treated during the past year is the highest in the history of the Hospital, whereas, owing to the late severe depression, the annual subscriptions have strongly decreased, and the Board views with some apprehension the prospects for the current year, and it is therefore that this appeal is made for new annual subscriptions, and for the gift of LEGACIES needed to effect certain repairs and improvements, which, by the lapse of time, have become necessary.
The following, among others, have given their names as Stewards on this occasion, viz.:—
His Grace the Duke of Fife, K.T.
Her Grace the Duchess of Portland.
The Right Hon. the Earl of Scarborough.
The Right Hon. the Earl of Rosslyn.
The Right Hon. the Earl of Carrington.
The Right Hon. Lord Carrington
The Right Hon. Lord Napier of Magdala
Lady Edmund Talbot
The Rev. E. Hay, M.A.
Henry C. Burdett, Esq.
The Rev. A. B. Carter, D.D.
Major Sir Francis Marindin, C.B., R.E.
Major Sir Francis Jeune, K.C.M.G.
Major J. Roper Parker
The Rev. Father Gerard
Alderman J. Pound
Alderman Sir Thomas Dixon Dixon, Esq.
Alfred de Rothschild, Esq.
The Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P.
Joseph Spence, Esq.
H. W. Tinsley, Esq.
THOMAS HARVEY, Secretary.

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